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8 Warships and 98 Planes Destroyed

163 Machines Smashed By Japanese in 20-day Period

HORN ISLE BOMBED

For only 20 days between April 21 and May 10, Japanese Navy planes either shot down or destroyed on the ground the large total of 163 enemy planes in their raids on Port Moresby in British New Guinea and Port Darwin in North Australia, according to a communique released by the Imperial Headquarters at 4:45 p.m. on Tuesday. The communique says:

"Imperial Navy Air Forces, in their attacks on Port Moresby and Port Darwin as well as in aerial combats over our bases there, shot down 112 enemy planes and destroyed 51 others on the ground between April 21 and May 10. During this period, we lost 12 planes."

JAPANESE HEAVILY BOMB HORN ISLAND

Domei

LISBON, May 11.—The airfield on Horn Island, northeast of Australia proper, today was subjected to terrific bombing assaults by Japanese aircraft, while Port Moresby, in New Guinea, was mass-raided again by another Japanese formation and suffered heavy damage to military establishments, the Allied High Command in the Southeastern Pacific announced, a Melbourne message reaching here disclosed.

PORT MORESBY BOMBING INTENSIFIED

Domei

LISBON, May 11.—In the third attack in three days, Port Moresby was again subjected to an intense air raid by the Japanese aircraft today, it was announced by the headquarters of the Allied Forces in the Southwestern Pacific, according to a Reuters dispatch from Melbourne.

JAPANESE AIR RAID IMPHAL CITY

Domei

LISBON, May 11.—The Japanese Air Force today raided Imphal, Indian city in Assam Province about 350 kilometers northeast of Chittagong, the British military headquarters in India announced, according to a cable reaching here from New Delhi.

JAPANESE BOMB ASSAM PROVINCE

Domei

SAIGON, May 12.—Japanese aircraft at 10:25 a.m. yesterday bombed British military positions in the eastern part of Assam Province near the Burmese border, the British High Command in India announced today according to information received here from New Delhi.

MAJOR-GENERAL SHARP ORDERS DISARMING

Domei

MALUKO, Mindanao Island, May 11.—The wholesale disarming by all remaining troops under his command was ordered by Major-General William F. Sharp, commander-in-chief of the United States-Filipino forces in Mindanao and the Visayan Islands immediately after his offer of unconditional surrender had been accepted by the Japanese.

Major-General Sharp ordered his troops to gather at a designated place where the Japanese Forces are keeping a close guard.

In a half-hour interview in a three-roomed school house at Maluko, a small village in the mountainous region in northern Mindanao Island, Major-General Sharp confessed that he had been determined to surrender because it had become impossible for the remaining Filipino-American troops in Mindanao and the Visayan Islands to resist any longer because of the severe Japanese onslaughts and the development of circumstances.

MINDANAO ENEMY AIR FORCE GONE

Domei

DAVAO, May 12.—With enemy planes all cleared of Mindanao Island by successive Japanese air raids, Japanese aircraft have taken complete command of the air over the whole island of Mindanao.

While carrying out attacks facilitating the advance of land forces, the Japanese Air Units machine-gunned two enemy aircraft on May 5 and another two the following day at the Valencia airdrome in northeastern Mindanao Island, setting them all on fire.

Japanese planes also attacked the Malabalay airfield in northeastern Mindanao on May 7 and set aflame one enemy machine.

The two airdromes had been the only remaining enemy air bases, out of all 19 air bases in the island, as all others already have fallen into Japanese hands or have been destroyed.

GERMAN LEADERS SPEAK ON REICH-DUTCH AMITY

Stress Another Fight Between Two Countries Should Be Eliminated

D.N.B.

THE HAGUE, May 11.—On the occasion of the second anniversary of the German advance into Holland, Reich Organization Leader, Dr. Ley, and Reich Minister Arthur Seyss-Inquart, and the Reich Commissioner for the occupied Dutch territories, in the presence of Air General Christiansen, the military commander of Holland, delivered speeches regarding German-Dutch cooperation.

Dr. Ley spoke in the evening about the future German-Dutch relations concerning the organizations of labor.

All speakers unanimously stressed that the possibility of another fight among the two Germanic peoples should be eliminated for all times.

U.S. SHIPBUILDING PLANS UP AGAINST STONE WALL

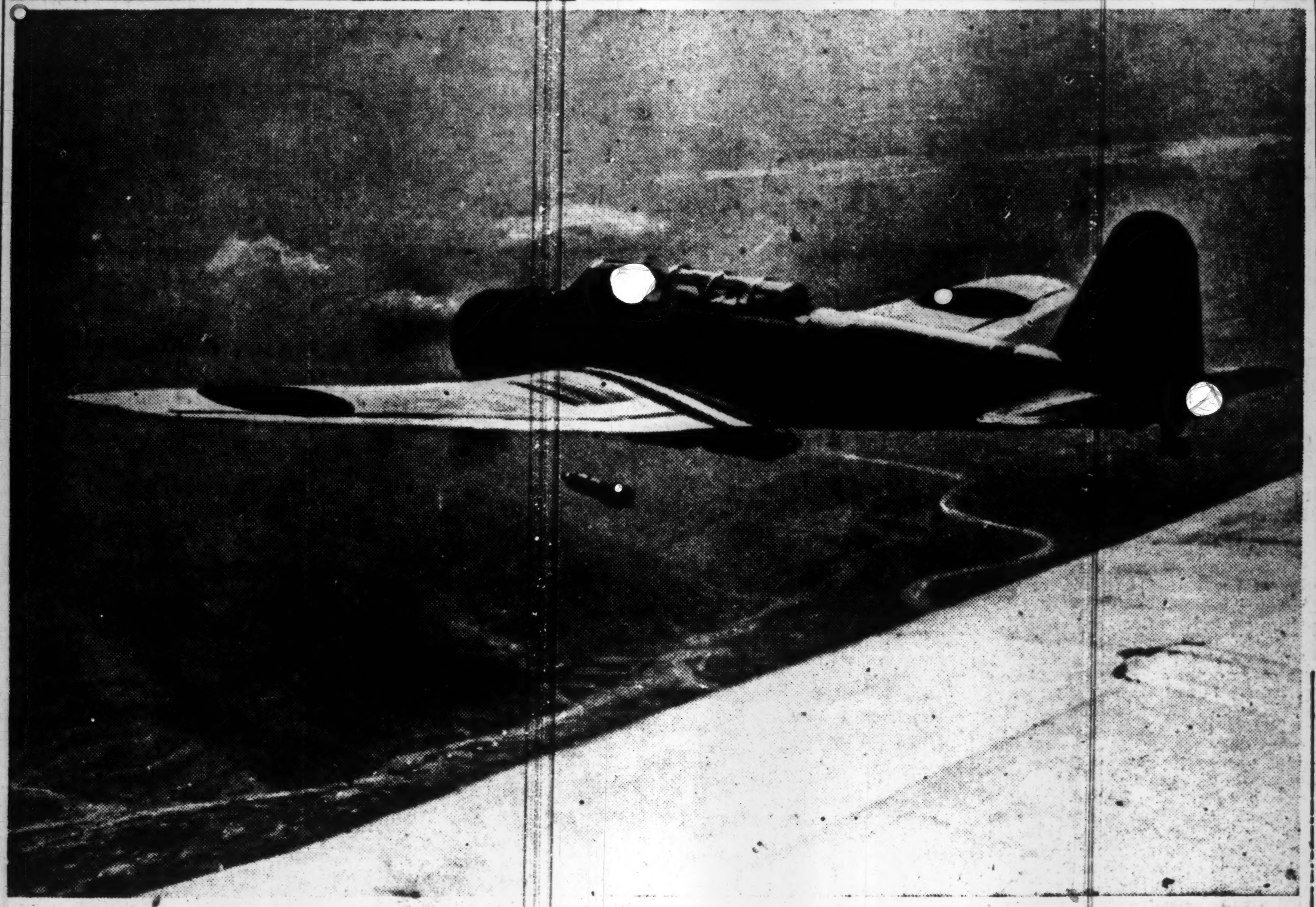
Construction Can't Keep Pace With Number of Sinkings Suffered

Special

BERLIN, May 1.—America's far-reaching plans to make up during this year for the losses suffered in the battle of the Atlantic by means of its proposed construction of 6,500,000 gross tons of new vessels are, apart from other hitches (lack of ways, docks, raw materials, machine tools and skilled labor) now apparently meeting with new difficulties, writes the Militaerische Korrespondenz aus Deutschland (German Military News).

This becomes clearly evident, the paper continues, by the fact that by order of the U.S. Government, a Bureau for Repairs of Vessels had to be established. Its main work is to distribute the ever increasing repair work to the various shipyards.

Death From the Skies for Chiang



With the glorious victory in Burma shifting the war center back to the China front, Japan's winged warriors are increasing their activities in this area. Here is a photo of a Japanese bomber, flying unchallenged over South China skies, which has just released one of its loads of death for Chiang. (Censored by Navy Ministry. No. 571).

MERCANTILE FLEET SPEED-UP APPROVED

Cabinet Gives Industrial Equipment Corporation Power to Build Ships

FULL EXPLANATION MADE

Bill Will Be Presented to Imperial Diet for Final Sanction

The Cabinet acted on Tuesday to speed up the program for increasing the nation's mercantile fleet.

In the move which was hailed in informed quarters as holding out the promise of an early solution of the bottleneck in acquiring materials needed for the effort to construct a high degree national defense state, the Cabinet approved a plan which aims to place in the hands of the Industrial Equipment Corporation, a semi-official organization headed by Ginjiro Fujiwara, one of Japan's foremost businessmen, authority to place orders for standard type merchant vessels and take in hand the extension of the nation's shipbuilding facilities and shipbuilding machinery.

The plan was explained to the Cabinet by Lieutenant-General Teiichi Suzuki, President of the Planning Board which body was responsible for the drafting of the measure.

The approval of the entire Cabinet was granted.

The corporation is to be compensated by the Government for any losses it might incur from the new venture.

Thus the nation's commercial shipping is to be placed under the sole management of the corporation.

All talk now is at an end of State ownership of merchant vessels and their operation by private concerns.

The bills necessary to enforce the decision will be introduced in the extraordinary session of the Imperial Diet which will meet for two days on May 27 and 28. One of them will revise the Industrial Equipment Corporation Law. The other will carry an appropriation to effect the measure.

The following statement on the Cabinet's move was issued by the Board of Information at 12:30 p.m. Tuesday:

"A measure, designed to insure execution of a planned shipbuilding program, was adopted at the regular Cabinet meeting on May 12.

"An outline of the measure follows:

"1. Policy involved in measure: Securing of a planned amount of

(Continued on Page 2)

Imperial Troops Called 'Mysterious' By Captured Indian Artillery Unit

Domei

CAGAYAN, May 11.—That Japanese soldiers are "mysterious" in three ways is the common opinion among the members of Indian anti-aircraft artillery units who were captured by the Japanese Forces in the course of operations on the Malay front.

The three "mysteries" to the Indian soldiers as revealed in an interview with a Domei correspondent were as follows:

1. Japanese soldiers fight even at night.

2. Japanese soldiers take the lead in attacks in any battle and never let the Indians march before them.

3. Japanese soldiers never discriminate against Indian soldiers and work just as hard as the Indians.

The three "mysteries" in the opinion of these Indian soldiers, in other words, tell the true story of what British troops were like when fighting in company with the Indians.

Some of these Indian soldiers are coveting the sashes of Japanese Army uniforms and apparently are firmly determined to cooperate to the end with the Japanese Forces in order to crush Britain and the United States, their common enemy.

These Indian soldiers have come to understand the true significance of the Holy War which Japan is fighting, and recently cooperated with the Japanese Forces in the attacks on Cebu, and Mindanao.

Bhamo Clean-Up Operations

Domei

YUNNAN FRONT, May 11.—While Japanese detachments inflicted crushing blows on remnants of the enemy on the banks of the Salween River, mopping-up operations in the region around Bhamo are progressing successfully and has resulted in a hundred-odd Indian soldiers, who had hidden in the mountainous regions, surrendering recently to the Japanese.

Meanwhile, peace and tranquility has been restored in the city of Bhamo following the round-up of Chungking plain-clothes soldiers who had infested the city.

Another detachment of Japanese troops is engaged in clean-up operations on the Irrawaddy River downstream below Bhamo.

Foreign News Spotlight

Exclusive Flashes

LOSS OF BURMA A CRITICAL BLOW, SAYS CYRIL RAY

LISBON, May 12.—Cyril Ray, a well-known British journalist, said in a BBC broadcast that in spite of the Allied resistance, the Burma campaign has gone pretty badly. The Japanese Forces severed the Burma Road completely, he continued, cutting off all means of supply from America and Britain to Chungking. The only remaining supply route is from Russia, the journalist stated, but the country has not much to spare. "We lost all chances of using Chiang Kai-shek's enormous manpower to the full, and also, of basing American long range bombers on Chinese airdromes to carry the war into Japan itself," he added.

GERMAN RADIO CONTRADICTS ANGLO-AMERICAN PROPAGANDA

LISBON, May 12.—Contradicting the false report spread by the Anglo-American nations, the Berlin radio said that when the truth is finally out, President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill, who are evidently very poor liars, will become the laughing-stock of the world. Churchill always lies, the same source declared, and he is now trying to hide the truth from the British and American public as they have not yet digested the fall of Corregidor, adding: "They cannot produce their aircraft carriers, battleships and destroyers which participated in the disastrous Battle of the Coral Sea simply because the sunken ships never come back to the surface except in Roosevelt's and Churchill's propaganda."

10,000 COMMUNISTS ENCIRCLED IN HOPEI

Enemys Composed of 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th and 10th Armies Facing Annihilation

BIG OFFENSIVE STAGED

2,000 Chinese Troops Under General Chu in Shantung Province Wiped Out

Domei

WITH JAPANESE FORCES IN CENTRAL HOPEI PROVINCE, May 12.—Approximately 10,000 Chinese Communist troops under Lu Cheng-tsao have been sealed and cordoned off by Japanese Forces in the sector north of the Shihmen-Tehsien railway in central Hopei Province.

The Japanese already have routed enemy troops in the areas southeast of Shenhsien and southwest of Anping.

Communist Units Encircled

Domei

CENTRAL HOPEI FRONT, May 12.—The enemy consisting of the Communist 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th and 10th armies under Lu Cheng-tsao have been completely trapped in the Japanese steel cordon which has a length of 120 kilometers and a width of 80 kilometers in Hopei Province.

Tightening the steel cordon encircling the enemy whose strength is estimated at about 10,000 strong the Japanese Forces are now keeping up their operations to annihilate the Chinese remnants.

Meanwhile, the Chinese Communist remnants are now making desperate efforts in constructing defense positions by digging out underground trenches.

Large Booty Seized

Domei

UNDISCLOSED PLACE IN HOPEI, May 12.—During the engagements staged in central Hopei Province between May 1 and 8, the enemy left behind 356 dead while the Japanese captured 55 prisoners.

Japanese Forces have also seized a large supply of arms and munitions, including seven Czech machine-guns, 242 rounds of machine-gun ammunition, 371 rifles, 5,182 rounds of rifle ammunition, 19 automatic rifles, two trench-mortars, 11 rounds of trench-morter ammunition, 13 light trench-mortars, 128 revolvers, 17 rounds of revolver ammunition, 7,543 hand-grenades, 146 Chinese-guns and 400 mines.

Enemy Remnants Destroyed

Domei

THE FRONT IN SHANTUNG PROVINCE, May 12.—Crack Japa-

(Continued on Page 2)

Gracious Imperial Rescript Granted Admiral Yamamoto

ENEMY WIPED OUT

Admiral Isoroku Yamamoto, Commander-in-Chief of the Combined Fleet, was recipient of another gracious Imperial Message awarded to him Tuesday for the annihilation of the American-British fleet recently by Navy Air Forces attached to the Combined Fleet in the Naval Battle of the Coral Sea, it was announced in a communique of the Imperial Headquarters at 5 p.m. on the same day. The communique reads:

"His Majesty the Emperor today was pleased to summon the Chief of the Naval Staff of the Imperial Headquarters and graciously awarded the following Imperial Rescript to the Commander-in-Chief of the Combined Fleet:

IMPERIAL RESCRIPT

"We deeply appreciate that Air Forces of the Combined Fleet, fighting bravely and gallantly in the Coral Sea, crushed the American-British fleet."

CORAL SEA BATTLE RESULTS GIVEN

Collective military achievements by the Imperial Navy Forces in the recent Naval Battle of the Coral Sea were made public in an Imperial Headquarters communique released at 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday. In the great naval engagements recently, Japanese Navy Air Forces gained startling results. They shot down 98 enemy planes, sent to watery graves two large aircraft carriers, one battleship and one cruiser, and dealt severe damage to three enemy warships and one oil tanker. The communique reads:

"Collective military achievements in the Naval Battle of the Coral Sea on May 7 and 8 follow:

"1. WARSHIPS:

"A U.S. aircraft carrier of the Saratoga type and another of the Yorktown type were sunk, while a U.S. battleship of the California type was sunk instantly. A British battleship of the Warspite type and an A-class British cruiser of the Canberra type were seriously crippled, while a cruiser of an unidentified type was heavily damaged. In addition, a destroyer was sunk and a 20,000-ton class tanker was seriously damaged.

"2. AIRCRAFT:

"A total of 98 planes were shot down.

"3. OUR LOSSES:

"A small-sized aircraft carrier, which was converted from an oil tanker, sank and 31 planes have not yet returned."

CHUNGKING IS FORCED TO ADMIT SETBACKS

Embarrassed by Loss of Supply Routes, Acknowledges Bhamo And Myitkyina Taken

Domei

SHANGHAI, May 12.—Chungking authorities, extremely embarrassed by the critical turn in the war situation for Chungking following the total loss of its southern "transfusion routes" owing to the smashing advances of the Japanese Forces deep into the Yunnan Province, yesterday finally admitted the fall of Bhamo and Myitkyina into the Japanese hands, information received here today disclosed.

While revealing that the Japanese have under control both key positions, Chungking authorities failed to touch on the advance of the Japanese spearheads at the eastern bank of the Lu River, and instead falsely announced that severe fighting is raging in the Chelfan sector, more than 100 kilometers west of the river, it was disclosed.

Referring to the spirited Japanese outflanking drive against the Chinese remnants in the Shan States, in Burma, Chungking authorities covered up the true situation, declaring stubborn resistance still is being offered by the Chinese against the Japanese.

Mitani Confers With Laval

Domei

VICHY, May 11.—Takanobu Mitani, Japanese Ambassador to France, today called on Premier Pierre Laval to confer on various current questions.

AXIS, ALLIED WAR RATIO COMPARED BY U.P. CHIEF

Rapid Japanese Advances Menace to British Possessions, He Says

D.N.B.

STOCKHOLM, May 11.—Commenting upon the comparative fighting power of the Allied forces and the Axis Powers, the European chief of the United Press stated that the Allies had now arrived at the conviction that they had to be prepared for all imaginable sacrifices in order to secure final victory.

He said that the Axis were still superior in their propaganda since the Allies were working with too much hollow phrases which were of little value in a world which had become largely realistic.

The surprisingly quick advances of the Japanese Forces are doubtless a menace to India, China, Australia and the Middle East. Moreover, the Japanese war production had been increased rapidly during the last six months, he said.

Germany had attained a considerable production capacity in the occupied regions, the oil and rubber territories particularly being of immense value to the Axis war potential.

He further stressed that the submarine shipyards in the Axis countries had been enlarged.

In conclusion he said that the air forces of the Axis Powers were being employed to an increasing extent and with great success against the Allied air forces which, as a consequence, were being considerably reduced.

VICHY AMBASSADOR PROTESTS U.S. ACT

France Cannot Recognize Negotiations Now Going on In Martinique

LAVAL CLARIFIES STAND

America Said Planning to Seize French Possessions in Caribbean Sea

Domei

LISBON, May 11.—Gaston Henri-Haye, French Ambassador to the United States, today called on Cordell Hull, United States Secretary of State, at the State Department and lodged a strong verbal protest regarding the Martinique issue upon instructions from the Vichy Government, according to a Washington dispatch received here today.

Cannot be Recognized

Domei

VICHY, May 11.—Clarifying its attitude toward the negotiations between Atimiral John Hoover, special United States envoy dispatched to Martinique to dispose of French possessions in the Caribbean Sea, and Admiral Georges Robert, High Commissioner of French territories in the West Indies, the Vichy Government today declared that the French Government cannot recognize the negotiations now under way between the United States and the local authorities in Martinique.

Meanwhile, Pierre Laval, French Premier, has declared that such negotiations require the recognition of the home Government.

To Clarify French Stand

Premier Pierre Laval is expected to clarify the French Government's attitude vis-a-vis the Martinique Island question shortly, according to the Havas News Agency.

The Premier's announcement reportedly will be made immediately after receipt of an official report from the French Ambassador in Washington, Gaston Henri-Haye.

Marshal Henry Philippe Petain, French Chief-of-State, returned here today by a special train from his villa in Rivers.

It is understood Marshal Petain returned here because of the impending issue between France and the United States in the West Indies.

Martinique Seizure Seen

Domei

BERNE, May 11.—Following the example of British occupation of Madagascar Island, the United States is now planning to seize Martinique Island and all other French possessions in the Caribbean area, according to competent observers here.

In this connection it is said that the American and British Governments, during the recent visit to London of General George Marshall, Chief-of-Staff of the United States Army, agreed to seize French colonies one after another.

The London Times, for example, on May 6 declared that the occupation of Madagascar Island by the British troops is the first fruit of General Marshall's visit to England.

Meantime, the British press is suggesting that Dakar will be the next objective of British-American action against French overseas possessions.

Mercantile Fleet Speed-Up Approved

(Continued From Page 1)

tonnage of standard type merchant vessels within a definite period is absolutely necessary for the execution of the war. In order to achieve this end, authority will be placed in the hands of the Industrial Equipment Corporation, with the powerful assistance of the Government, to place orders for standard type merchant vessels and the extension of shipbuilding facilities and shipbuilding machinery.

"II. Outline of the measure: (a) Under the plan, the Industrial Equipment Corporation is to engage in the following enterprises in accordance with measures established by the Government:

"1. Placing of orders for standard type merchant vessels and disposal thereof.

"2. New establishment and extension of shipbuilding facilities and shipbuilding machinery and disposal thereof.

"3. The Government is to determine standard prices concerning the construction and transfer of standard type merchant vessels. Details of the prices and matters concerning their enforcement are to be fixed by the Government organs concerned on consultation.

"4. The Government is to make good any losses incurred by the Industrial Equipment Corporation in having standard type merchant vessels built for it. The corporation is to have the all-out aid of the Government in obtaining funds needed by it in the business.

"5. The Industrial Equipment Corporation will be given reduced registration tax rates where it has merchant vessels, shipbuilding facilities, and shipbuilding machinery registered as part of a plan to carry out this measure.

"6. The Industrial Equipment Corporation is to have a separate account concerning the enforcement of this measure. The corporation is to be supervised in matters related to the enforcement of this measure.

"7. The bills revising existing laws and appropriations necessary for the enforcement of this measure will be introduced in the coming extraordinary Diet session.

Iranians Teasing Britons London Shortly Will Be Blasted Away, Ichikawa Recounts

People of Teheran are teasing the Britishers by telling them in sign language and other gestures that it will not be long before London is blasted away from the British Isles completely, it was disclosed by Hikotaro Ichikawa, Japanese Minister to Iran in an interview given a Nichi Nichi reporter at Harbin.

Mr. Ichikawa and nine others left the Iranian capital on April 23 and reached, first of all, Pahlevi on the western coast of the Caspian Sea via northern Iran in automobiles. From there, the party crossed the Caspian Sea on a Soviet steamer specially placed at their disposal, and arriving at Krasnovodsk, they proceeded to Novosibirsk by way of Askhabad, Samarkand, Tashkent, Alma Ata and Semipalatinsk, a distance of approximately 5,000 kilometers.

From Novosibirsk, the party boarded the trans-continental Siberian Railway train and reached Manchouli on May 9, arriving at Harbin on the following day.

With the increase in tension in Iran following the entry of Anglo-Soviet troops in August last year, Mr. Ichikawa said, he instructed the

Japanese residents numbering a little over thirty, majority of whom having stayed in Iran in connection with their business, to return by the Hie Maru in October.

Iran on Eve of War

At that time the Japanese Minister continued, Iran was on the eve of a war, and the atmosphere was extremely tense, with Australian and Soviet soldiers patrolling the streets with bayonetted rifles and wearing steel helmets.

"On that memorable morning of December 8, 1941," Mr. Ichikawa said, "I turned on the radio switch as usual and was about to walk away to my chair when, in a highly excited voice, a London broadcasting station announced that the Pearl Harbor had been attacked by the Japanese Forces and that three American battleships had been sunk.

'Subsequently," he went on, "I turned the dial to catch a broadcast from Berlin and Rome respectively, both of which relayed the brilliant accomplishment of the Imperial Forces in rapid succession.

"For some reason, the reception in Teheran is extraordinary clear, and it was possible for me to hear broadcasts from various countries. That epochal statement issued by Premier Hideki Tojo relative to the declaration of war on America and Britain could be heard as if were being broadcast from a local station."

The reason that led up to their evacuation from Teheran, Mr. Ichikawa declared, was the clause contained in an agreement signed among Iran, Britain and the Soviet Union in January this year which stipulated that Iran shall sever diplomatic relations with the countries with whom Britain and Soviet no longer maintain such relations.

It is true that Japan is at war with Britain, but on the other hand, he continued, there still exists a strict neutrality between Japan and the Soviet Union and consequently, there is no change whatsoever in the Russo-Japanese relations.

In Difficult Position

"Iran, and the Soviet Union for that matter, wanted to stay neutral therefore, the two countries hoped to avoid any action which might stimulate the Japanese Empire," Mr. Ichikawa said. Under the circumstances, Iran was placed in the most difficult position.

"It was the British intention to use Iran as an advanced line in defending India from the German drive. The Soviet Union, on the other hand, advanced into Iran for the purpose of maintaining the supply route of various war requisites through this country.

"Iran itself was not strong enough, of course, to resist these actions by force of arms so the country thought that, though it was far from willing, there would be no harm for these two countries to use Iran, provided it was just for the exchange of war materials between them.

"But the country was absolutely against being dragged into the turmoils of war through this action. In other words, Iran was reluctantly prepared to let Britain and Soviet use the country for transportation purposes, but it was firmly determined not to be involved in someone else's fight, particularly when the other party was Japan, the country against which Iran entertained a friendly feeling inwardly."

Continuing, the Japanese Minister said that with the progress of the War of Greater East Asia, remarkable achievements of the Imperial Forces on all fronts steadily poured into Iran, and within the few months of the war, India was exposed to an extreme danger even before the spring offensive of the German forces.

Britain Confused

Britain was thrown into confusion and excitement as it realized it had to prepare not only for the German offensive but also for the Japanese menace on India from the east Mr. Ichikawa said. Britain had to do something to wriggle out of this tight spot so the country, by arguing down the Soviet officials who were not so enthusiastic over the British proposal, succeeded in forcing Iran to cut off its diplomatic relations with Japan after six months of threat and cajolery, he said.

"These are the circumstances that led up to the necessity of our quitting the Iranian capital," Mr. Ichikawa said, "and as can be seen from what I have already said, consideration should be given to Iran in being obliged to take such a measure against Japan.

"The funniest incident happened immediately after the fall of Singapore. An Iranian child was walking along a street when he came across an Englishman. What the little lad did was to stick out his open palm in front of the Englishman's eyes and taking a deep breath, blew at his hand after saying 'Singapore!' The most amusing part was that the Britisher, turning red as a beet, did the same thing to the child after spitting out, 'Teheran!'.

"The little boy was not to be beaten so easily. He came right back at the Briton and in the same manner told him that next is London's turn. Similar incidents happen also among the grown-ups, indicating that the Iranians, though the Government has severed diplomatic relations with Japan, are still maintaining a friendly feeling toward our country."

In conclusion, the returning Japanese Minister said that the country is virtually occupied by Anglo-Soviet troops, but inside the hotels, the orchestra is playing Japanese jazz-songs and marches, and the irony of it all is that the British and Australian soldiers, unaware that they are composed in Japan, are happily dancing to these tunes.

Burmese Boy, 11, With Monicker Taro-san Has Big Ambition to Build Greater Burma

An 11-year-old Burmese boy, known to the Japanese soldiers as Taro-san, whose great ambition is to study in Tokyo and later build a new Burma, reconstructing Rangoon into a city like Tokyo, offered help to the Japanese Army as an interpreter. A member of the Army Information Corps stationed in Burma gives the following account of the boy:

"Soon after the attack upon Moulmein, we went to a town 17 miles south of Moulmein. There, an intelligent looking boy approached us, and as he spoke fluent English, helped us in our work. He then invited us to his home.

"At the entrance of his home stood a Rising Sun flag, to which he pointed saying 'I made it myself.' This boy of 11 years gave his name as Man Nyan Shen. His father, he said, was a rich farmer owning 500 acres of land, eight cows, and an automobile.

"Hearing of the boy's wish to study in Japan, I encouraged him to go by all means for we would assist him as much as we could. The father listened to our conversation contentedly.

"The following day the boy came alone to the office of the corps in Moulmein. He offered us his father's automobile, saying that he intended to stay with us as an interpreter. I asked him what he knew about Japan, to which he answered without the least hesitation, 'Japan has volcanoes all around and many earthquakes. The Japanese are very polite and brave with very good brains. Tokyo is the capital city, where His Majesty the Emperor lives. It is the largest city in the Orient.'

Has Great Ambition

"He also knew the story of Momotaro and related it to us. I then asked him what he aimed to be. I had expected him to answer, a soldier or an engineer or a doctor, but his ambition was far greater.

"'I hope to study in Tokyo and learn Japanese. Then I'll reform Burma, making Burma as strong as Japan, and Rangoon as large as Tokyo,' was his answer.

"The boy, who came to be known as Taro, slept and ate with the Japanese soldiers, driving the car in and out of town and doing all he could as an interpreter.

"After a month, the time for the entrance into Rangoon having approached, we had to leave Moulmein. Taro begged us to take him along to Rangoon with us, but we could not take him to the battlefield. With tears in his eyes he said 'sayonara' to us in Japanese he had picked up in course of the month.

"Fortunately, we entered Rangoon without difficulty. If I had known this earlier, I would have brought Taro along with us. How happy he would have been.

"I am only hoping that such boys would study in Japan in the future and serve as ties to bind Japan and Burma strongly."

BRITONS ARE UPSET BY MANY REVERSES

Wilhelmstrasse Ridicules Churchill's Radio Speech About Use of 'Gas'

Domei

BERLIN, May 11.—Prime Minister Winston Churchill's radio speech last night, declaring British readiness to resort to immediate retaliatory steps in case poison gas strategy is adopted by the German forces was ridiculed by the Wilhelmstrasse today, which characterized the British Prime Minister's remark as a typical proof of British nervousness over a series of crushing reverses the British forces have suffered thus far.

Wilhelmstrasse authorities, at a press interview today, declared that Premier Churchill's speech represents Britain's faint hope of surmounting the present grave crisis by illusion.

If Premier Churchill deems it necessary to reproduce such foolish opinion, the Wilhelmstrasse quarters affirmed, the world may believe Britain is going to commit another fresh crime.

Churchill Fooling America

In the good old days when England was in sore need of financial support from their brothers across the seas, Winston Churchill used to sugar the Americans with high sounding phrases that blew up their pride and tickled their palates to such an extent that they did not mind the huge holes that were made by the British extortionists in the United States National Treasury.

Now that the Americans have become immune from the poisonous effects of such beguiling oratory, with anti-British feeling rife in America and anti-American sentiment pervading Britain, Churchill has been robbed of the only weapon that he can effectively wield in his fight against the Axis Powers—rank lies cloaked in honeyed words. Thus states an article in the Deutsche Allgemeine Zeitung, Berlin, which runs in substance as follows:

Way to Raid Treasury

A factor which is handicapping Mr. Churchill these days is the inadvisability of talking about President Roosevelt and the dear brothers and cousins across the sea. With anti-American feeling cropping up again in Britain and anti-British sentiment sweeping across the United States, it would hardly be appropriate for the Prime Minister to rehash the old story of Anglo-American affection and brotherly love. In the old days it was the customary shot-in-the-arm to cheer up the British public, and Mr. Churchill invariably waxed eloquent when he got that subject. It served a double purpose: It cheered up the British and it paved the way for another raid on the United States Treasury.

In this connection his classic Mansion House speech last November will be recalled when he said:—"The United States Lend-Lease Bill must be regarded without question as the most unsordid act in the whole of recorded history. Never again let us hear that money is the ruling thought and power in the heart of American democracy."

That was more than oratory; it was sheer genius a masterpiece of psychology. With a few words he put the American people behind the eight-ball and practically wiped out Britain's past, present and future debts to the United States. No one likes to be regarded as a sordid character; and Americans do not like to be slandered as a race of money grabbers. So what did Churchill do? He told the American people that they were the most unsordid people in all the world—in all the world's history—and that he would defend to death the American people against any unfair charges that the United States was dictated by dollar diplomacy.

But that also left the American people on the spot. Because if they should ever open their mouths about repayment—they would automatically make themselves sordid and admit that money is the ruling thought and power in the heart of American diplomacy. If Americans even dare to hint that they would like to recover a part of the billions so generously lavished on Britain by President Roosevelt, Mr. Churchill would look surprised—painfully surprised—and say that America was not worthy of the great qualities attributed to her by Britain and the British people. He thought they were unsordid—and that dollars had no place in American democracy—but how he had misjudged America and the Americans!

Refuse to Pay Debt

Churchill proved that he had learned something from the last World War. England borrowed about 10 billion dollars from the United States then and refused to pay it back. When requests for payment arrived the British set up a howl about Uncle Shylock; and that left a mighty sour taste in the mouths of the American people—not to mention a very empty feeling in the pocketbook; and the American people looked on the British for a long time as a race of chiselers and welchers. However, the British bore up under that contempt . . . They could afford to. After all, the American people were paying 10 million dollars for the privilege of despising the British.

And so, to avoid such unpleasantness in the future, Mr. Churchill adopted a new line. Americans,—he said,—are the world's most generous people. They are absolutely unsordid. They never think of such low things, such vulgar things as money. And whoever says that Americans are a race of Shylocks is a liar . . . God bless America! Thank you, Mr. Roosevelt!

And having said that, he leaves it to the Americans to find a way of asking for their money back without being the very Shylocks that Mr. Churchill says they are not. In other words, Churchill said that the Americans are the best people in the world, and he's leaving it to the Americans themselves to prove that he's wrong. Churchill has the American taxpayer coming and going; and all the time the United States holds the bag for from 13 to 20 billion dollars with more to come.

If Mr. Churchill's war strategy were as good as his money-grabbing tactics, England would have no difficulty in winning the war . . . but clever swindling may make money but it does not win battles . . . so Britain continues merrily on the road to defeat—unwept, unhonored and unsung.

27 PLANES DOWNED BY NAZI AIR FORCES

Germans Pound Malta Again When General Gort Was Holding Ceremony

Domei

BERLIN, May 11.—Some 27 aircraft, including 22 British Hurricanes, were shot down by German bombers in air combats yesterday over the northern sector of the Eastern Front, the German High Command announced today.

German scouting planes, operating in the direction of the Black Sea have sunk an enemy merchantman of the 1,300-ton class in the Straits of Kerch, the communique said.

The communique added that waves of German dive-bombers and fighters swarmed over the port of Murmansk and dealt devastating blows, while other units of the Luftwaffe at the same time intensively bombed the Murmansk railway line.

In the Mediterranean area, German air formations carried out another raid on Malta Island, scoring a hit on an enemy warship anchored at the harbor of La Valetta, the communique disclosed.

Italian aircraft, accompanying the German formations, shot down eight enemy aircraft, while the Germans brought down nine others in air battles over Malta Island, the High Command said, adding that an additional two British machines were downed in North Africa.

In the sea north of Alexandria, German bombers were said to have rained bombs on an enemy vessel of 5,000 tons, causing a large fire aboard the ship which is believed to have sunk.

In the British Isles, the Luftwaffe has been keeping up vigorous bombing raids on principal factory areas and military installations, as well as on enemy shipping, the communique disclosed.

Germans Bomb Malta

Domei

LISBON, May 11.—Defying severe anti-aircraft fire, large formations of the German air force yesterday conducted heavy raids on the island of Malta, while inauguration ceremonies of General Viscount John Gort as Governor and concurrently Commander-in-Chief of the island were being observed, a London radio report reaching here disclosed today.

The affair reportedly was thrown into great confusion by the raids, much to the dismay of the British authorities.

Allies Lose 281,000 Tons

Domei

BERLIN, May 11.—The Volkischer Beobachter today reported that the German Navy sank 43 Allied freighters and oil tankers, aggregating 256,000 tons in the western Atlantic during the period from May 1 to 10.

The journal added that the total tonnage lost by the Allies during the 10 days amounted to 281,000 tons, inclusive of vessels sunk in the Mediterranean and Arctic waters.

CURRENCY RULING CHANGED

All Nanking Commodity Prices Quoted in New Terms

C.P.S.

NANKING, May 4.—Commencing May 1, 1942, the prices for all commodities were quoted in terms of the new legal tender, in accordance with an official ruling announced recently.

For the purpose of making sure that this ruling is strictly observed by all shop-keepers, the Nanking Municipal Government and the Metropolitan Police Administration have organized a party of inspectors to make the rounds of all local shops and stores to ascertain the commodity prices.

Violation of the said ruling will render the offenders liable to severe punishment.

TO DEVELOP MEXICAN MINES

U.S. to Step in and Boost Metal Production

Domei

BUENOS AIRES, May 11.—An agreement between the United States and Mexico under which the United States will develop Mexico's mining industry is expected to be concluded soon, according to a Mexico City dispatch reaching here today.

The report also revealed that United States and Mexican authorities recently reached an agreement concerning the increased production of copper, lead, antimony, zinc and mercury in Mexico.

Today's Press Comments

Wednesday, May 13, 1942

(Excerpts from important editorials which are appearing this morning in the leading vernaculars are published herewith. Translations of other editorials will be found daily in the Evening Edition of the Japan Times and Advertiser.)

Planned Shipbuilding

MIYAKO—The most urgent problem today is the increase of ship bottoms. In view of the rise in labor and material, the outstanding question was to whom the difficult and unlucrative enterprise was to be entrusted. It was finally decided, however, that the Industrial Equipment Corporation, with the strong backing of the Government, will undertake the planned shipbuilding.

So far, the Industrial Equipment Corporation has been endeavoring for the merger of non-urgent and unnecessary institutions. This is the original mission of the organization, and consequently, it must continue to concentrate its efforts toward this end.

Now that it has been entrusted with another mission, a weighty one, redoubled exertions are necessary in order to fulfill its responsibilities. It is to be hoped that the Corporation will exercise utmost care in performing its duty most efficiently so that the increased ship bottom can be realized at an earliest possible date.

Shipbuilding Plan Approved

CHUGAI—The Cabinet on Tuesday approved a plan for giving the Industrial Equipment Corporation power to order standard type merchant vessels and extend the nation's shipbuilding facilities and machinery for construction of merchant vessels.

The measure would coordinate the work of building merchant shipping in the country. It would involve a revision of the Industrial Equipment Corporation Law to permit the Government to compensate the corporation for any losses sustained in the performance of the new task imposed upon it. The corporation originally was formed to see that the machinery in the nation be used for the promotion of the national end.

The formation of a corporation concerning itself exclusively with matters related to the completion of the nation's program for constructing mercantile shipping within a special period has been suggested in some shipping circles. The idea is excellent. Presumably it was discarded by the Government on the ground that it would take much time to realize it.

Enforcement of Shipbuilding Scheme

HOCHI—As a prerequisite for the adjustment of economy, the development of natural resources and the exchange of the materials within the East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere, shipping expansion is urged most urgently and earnestly since the establishment of the Co-Prosperity Sphere hinges on whether or not the increase of ship bottoms is realized satisfactorily.

In response to the development of the "resources" warfare being carried on along with the armed conflict, various measures have been taken by the Government to improve the transportation situation as much as possible with the expansion of shipping as the first goal set for the purpose. The collection of metals is one of the measures taken by the Government for that purpose.

Concerning the enforcement of the planned shipping program, the Government declared that it would seek the approval of the extraordinary session of the Imperial Diet to be convoked at the end of this month. Prior to the opening of the extraordinary session, the Government made public on Tuesday its policies and details concerning the planned shipbuilding program.

According to the Government announcement, for the acquision of the planned number of standard vessels in a specified period of time, the Industrial Equipment Corporation is to be charged, under the government support, with the task relating to shipbuilding contracts, shipbuilding and the expansion of shipbuilding equipment. As to the enforcement of the planned shipbuilding scheme, the corporation is to be placed under the supervision of the Communications Ministry.

In view of the present situation of this country, some drastic measures are required to be taken for the expansion of ship bottoms and no hitch is allowed to be caused in carrying out the shipbuilding scheme.

10,000 Communists Encircled in Hopei

(Continued From Page 1)

nese Forces, continuing intense mopping-up operations in southwestern Shantung Province, have encircled and annihilated 2,000 enemy troops under the command of General Chu Shih-chin in the vicinity of Shan-Hsien.

In the course of the mopping-up operations during the period from the end of April to May 10, the Japanese Forces captured 1,843 prisoners, as well as 2,782 rifles, 38 heavy machine-guns, five trench mortars, horses rolling stock and other ammunition. The enemy left 6,207 dead on the battlefield.

Punitive Drive Started

Domei

UNDISCLOSED PLACE IN HOPEI May 12.—The Japanese Forces on May 1 started an offensive against Communist remnants infesting central Hopei Province, and are now hammering them in the delta zone of the Huto River, into which the enemy had been driven after suffering defeats at various fronts, the Japanese Forces in North China announced at 3 p.m. today.

Army Planes Active

Domei

CENTRAL HOPEI FRONT, May 12.—Crack Japanese Army planes, yesterday appearing over the Communist positions, rained bombs on the entrapped enemy forces, and effectively machine-gunned Red troops attempting to flee from the tightening Japanese steel cordon.

New Post for Gloucester

Domei

LISBON, May 11.—The Duke of Gloucester, who is now in Baghdad, will assume shortly an important post in the British military and political administration in the Near East, according to an Havas report from Sofia received here today.

British Merchantman Sunk

Domei

VICHY, May 11.—The United States Navy Department disclosed officially today the sinking of a medium-sized British merchantman off the Atlantic coast of the United States, according to an Havas report from Washington. The vessel was reported to have been torpedoed.

PREMIER'S MESSAGE GIVEN COMMANDERS

Cables Felicitations to General Terauchi and Admiral Yamamoto

Premier General Hideki Tojo and General Gen Sugiyama, Chief of the Army General Staff on Tuesday, sent cables of felicitations to General Count Hisaichi Terauchi, Commander-in-Chief of the Japanese Forces in the Southern Regions, and Lieutenant-General Shojiro Iida, Supreme Commander of the Japanese Forces in Burma, congratulating them on the overwhelming success of Japanese military operations on the Burma front, according to Domei.

The Navy Ministry at 4 p.m. Tuesday officially announced that Premier General Hideki Tojo has sent a cable of felicitations to the Commander-in-Chief of the Combined Fleet and unit commander of the Imperial Navy participating in the Battle of the Coral Sea.

Premier Tojo, in his message, congratulated the glorious achievements attained by the Imperial Navy in the Coral Sea against the powerful combined fleet of the American and British navies.

Expressing deep respect and gratitude for the gallant fighting of the officers and men, the Premier prayed for their further success in the future, it was announced.

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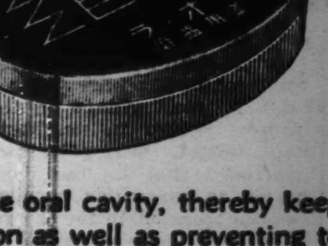


Two unrivalled features:
The natrium salts in the powder work chemically in clearing up the carbo-acid calcium and organic matter and keep the teeth free from tartar.
The fine grains of the powder absorb impurities, germs, etc. and purify the oral cavity, thereby keeping it in a healthy condition as well as preventing tooth decay and unpleasant breath.

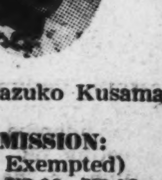
Recommended by leading dentists on the basis of experiments carried out by them.

MITSUWA SOAP FACTORY - Tokyo

SPRING PERFORMANCE 7 p.m. May 15, 16, 17
NIPPON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
Formerly NEW SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Conductor: Mr. Kazuo Yamada
Soloists:

VIOLIN: Miss Mary Iwamoto



PIANO: Miss Kazuko Kusama

ADMISSION: (Tax Exempted) ¥5.00, ¥3.00, ¥2.00 All Reserved Seats

PROGRAM

1st Evening: FRI.
BEETHOVEN: Symphony No. 3 in E Flat Major (Eroica)
SAINT-SAENS: Carnival of the Animals
WAGNER: Prelude—Die Maeister von Nurnberg

2nd Evening: SAT.
BACH: Brandenburg Concerto No. 3 in G Major
BEETHOVEN: Violin Concerto in D Major
REZNICEK: Overture—Donna Diana
WEBER: Invitation to the Waltz

3rd Evening: SUN.
BEETHOVEN: Symphony No. 6 in F Major (Pastoral)
FAURE: Ballade for Piano and Orchestra
Pacific 231 (Honegger)—Symphonic Movement

Under the Auspices of
THE ASAHI-SHINBUN SHAKAI JIGYODAN
ASAHI KAIKAN, OSAKA

ARMY AIDS CHINESE IN RECLAIMING LAND

Japanese Troops Harvest Wheat on Former Battlefields In Central China

In Wulitien in Central China, a field of 500 acres has been reclaimed by the joint work of the Japanese "colonial" troops and the native farmers. Since last July an abundant crop of barley and wheat has been harvested, according to a report on Monday from a Yomiuri correspondent somewhere in Central China.

"The fields in Wulitien, east of Sinyang on the Peking-Hankow Railway, are now covered with a good crop of barley and wheat," he said. "Visitors to this area often wonder if this was once the battlefield, scene of violent fighting between the Japanese and Chinese troops.

"Today, scores of Japanese soldiers, with Lieutenant Zentaro Kakijima as the leader, are engaged in farming together with the natives.

¥100,000 Invested

"It was on June 7 last year that the militia set to work on establishing an ideal farm of some 5,000 acres. A sum of ¥100,000 was invested in the enterprise.

"This plan was materialized by Commander Hanaya, who was of the opinion that the China Affair cannot be successfully accomplished unless the Japanese work in harmony with the Chinese and that mutual understanding between the two people can be reached only by working hand in hand with each other.

"With this in mind, Japanese soldiers started engaging in rigorous labor. They worked from early morning till late at night, fighting, at the same time, with enemy remnants who attacked the colonists from time to time.

"Nature, however, was not kind to these workers. A crop of rice on 200 acres of paddy field, the result of sweat of the Japanese soldiers, was totally destroyed by the draught that visited the whole of Honan Province last year.

"The colonial troops, however, encouraged by the commander of the militia, Lieutenant Kakijima, stubbornly fought against nature and finally reclaimed some 500 acres before the end of last year.

Farmer's Village Created

"Meanwhile, a village has been established with a fund of ¥50,000 for the natives, who have started returning to their native place from refuge. There are 110 families, comprising 470 persons, living in the village at present.

"The many days of hard labor of the Japanese soldiers and the Chinese have yielded satisfactory results. This year's crop was 835 sacks of barley, 6,735 sacks of wheat and 411 sacks of peas. Following the harvest of wheat and barley, kaoliang, millet, cotton, sesame, hemp and soyabeans have been planted.

"In the meantime, various plans are being considered for the coming year. A factory will be built to produce farming tools to be loaned to the native farmers.

"Peace reigns in this area and the mutual cordiality between the Japanese militia and the Chinese farmers is becoming closer."

Recollecting the experiences of the past one year, Lieutenant Kakijima said, "The natives call me the 'boss of the coolies' or a 'veteran farmer.' I am glad to see that the soldiers and the farmers are working in close cooperation.

"The China Affair has entered the stage of construction. We, Japanese soldiers, must, therefore, be the pioneers of construction as well as strong soldiers."

Kobe Notes

The Nippon Symphony Orchestra of Tokyo, which was formerly the New Symphony Orchestra and reorganized at the end of last month to become the first symphony orchestra in Japan to be officially supervised by the Government, will make its debut in the Kansai this week-end at the Asahi Kaikan in Osaka.

The Nippon Symphony Orchestra, under the baton of Kazuo Yamada, will perform before an anticipated large audience of music-lovers on three consecutive evenings, beginning on Friday, May 15. On each night, an attractive program is slated. There will be two well-known soloists performing with the orchestra in its Kansai debut . . . the young violinist Miss Mary Iwamoto and the talented pianist Miss Kazuko Kusama.

The programs for the three evenings follow:

Friday, May 15

Beethoven ... Symphony No. 3 in E Flat Major (Eroica).
Saint-Saens .. Carnival of the Animals.
Wagner ...... Prelude to Die Meistersinger von Nurenberg.

Saturday, May 16

Bach .... Brandenburg Concerto No. 3 in G Major.
Beethoven .. Violin Concerto in D Major. Soloist: Miss Mary Iwamoto.
Reznicek ..... Overture to Donna Diana.
Weber .... Invitation to the Waltz.

Sunday, May 17

Beethoven ... Symphony No. 6 in F Major (Pastoral).
Faure .... Ballad for Piano and Orchestra. Soloist: Miss Kazuko Kusama.
Honegger .... Pacific No. 231 (Symphonic Movement).

The admission fees are exempted from tax and are ¥5, ¥3 and ¥2. The curtain rises at 7 p.m. on each evening.

The following telegram is lying undelivered at the Kobe Central Telegraph Office: Kamakura to Breymann, No. 4 Yamamoto-dori 3-chome, Kobe.

Just Like Home Reunion

When the Imperial Forces landed on New Guinea, Japanese nationals knew they had been saved. Happy mothers overjoyed with tears in their eyes greeted the soldiers bringing their children. Here's one steel-helmeted soldier thinking of his beloved ones back home as he fondles a baby, too young to know what it's all about but one thing is certain, he'll find absolute safety under his compatriots' protection. (Photographed by Cameraman Ota of the Naval Press Corps. Censored by Navy Ministry. No. 571)

CAPITAL TO OBSERVE TOKYO PORT OPENING

To Commemorate Inauguration Day Annually—First Celebration on May 20

In commemoration of May 20, 1941, when the port of Tokyo was opened to international trade, the Municipality has decided to fix it as the Tokyo Port Opening Day to be observed with a varied program each year, reports Domei.

Since its inauguration a year ago, the port of Tokyo has been assuming a vital role in the common prosperity bloc in East Asia, giving full play to various port facilities. In order to implant into the minds of port employes, those in the trade circle and the general public the significance of the occasion, a commemoration day has been set to be observed each year.

The program set for the coming May 20, is as follows:

1. Those concerned with the ports as well as the general public will be invited to the Hibiya Public Hall from 6 p.m. to hear addresses by Tomejiro Okubo, Mayor of Tokyo, and Isao Kawada former Finance Minister, following which a film will be shown.

2. Under the support of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, Osaka Shosen Kaisha, Toa Kaiun Kaisha, and the Nanyo Kaiun Kaisha, the four large steamship companies in the country, Maritime Transportation Fair will be held on the seventh floor of the Matsuzakaya department store in Ginza during the seven days beginning May 15.

It is being planned to explain during the exhibition that an ideal maritime transportation facility can be created only when the ships, loading and unloading and the port itself function in perfect unison. The past, present and the future of the Port of Tokyo, the relation between maritime transportation and the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere, the Southern Course, introduction of southern ports and the southern resources will be graphically described by means of a diorama, photographs, diagrams and models.

3. On May 19, from noon, some 300 persons connected with the Government offices, shipping circles and the Tokyo Municipality will be invited to the Imperial Hotel, where a luncheon will be given in commemoration of the first anniversary of the opening of Tokyo Port.

U.S. Prices Controlled

Special

STOCKHOLM, May 4.—Retail stores throughout the United States have been ordered to display price lists in their shopwindows for the goods sold by them as from May 18, price control administrator Leon Henderson announced yesterday. Henderson's decree is the first result of President Roosevelt's plan for controlling prices in the United States.

Railway Line in Central Burma Reopened Thanks to Efforts of Imperial Forces

The railway line running through central Burma from Rangoon to Mandalay and Mijitkyina, which hitherto had served as the life line for Chungking, is fast being restored by the Japanese Forces to play a new role, according to an Asahi correspondent in Rangoon.

The 250 kilometers branch line between Rangoon and Toungoo was reopened on May 7 by the Railway Corps, which works in concert with the spearhead of the Imperial Forces.

The bridge over the Panontan Creek, which had been destroyed completely by the retreating enemy, was reconstructed by Commander Gokiro Tsushima, Lieutenant Shigehiro Asakura, Sub-lieutenant Isamu Sugiyama, Corporal Takao Nonaka, and others, who worked day and night without rest and completed their work in only five days and nights. The Burmese living in the vicinity cooperated with these men, the report states.

At a railway station an enemy train filled with retreating enemy soldiers collided on its way north with another enemy train filled with provisions, sugar, and gasoline, that was on its way to rescue the men in the south. The scene relates only too plainly the enemy's confusion in making their escape.

The two kilometers of line from Toungoo Station has been wrecked shamefully by the Chungking army, the report continues.

Including the 260 kilometers that have already been reopened to traffic, the railway line in Burma has extend to 530 kilometers thanks to the untiring work of the Railway Corps.

THAI MISSION VISITS GRAND SHRINES AT ISE

Returns to Kyoto After Praying For Successful Greater East Asia War

Following their arrival at Ujiyamada from Kyoto, Lieutenant-General Phya Phahol Pholphaynha Sena, head of the Thai Felicitation Mission, and members of his party, now en route back to their home after fulfilling their mission in Tokyo, motored to the Ise Grand Shrines Tuesday afternoon to pray for the successful prosecution of the War of Greater East Asia as well as for the further enhancement of the amicable Japan-Thailand relations, reports Domei.

The Thai mission then took a short rest at the Fujiya Hotel facing the local station and returned to Kyoto by train after a hearty send-off accorded by the people there.

GRADUATION DAY FETED

Magistrates' Training Institute in Nanking Holds Exercises

C.P.S.

NANKING, May 11.—The fifth term of the Magistrates' Training Institute sponsored by the Ministry of the Interior held its graduation exercises on May 5.

After the event, the entire class paid a visit in the morning to the mausoleum of the late 'Father of the Republic,' the Ming tombs and other famous landscapes in the capital.

Plans Flood Prevention

C.P.S.

HANKOW, May 11.—The Bureau of Public Works held a meeting recently to devise ways and means for the prevention of floods following the tradition of the annual flood prevention measures.

GENERAL GOUGH BECOMES SECOND FRONT ADVOCATE

Utters Stern Warning to British Not to Underrate German Army's Strength

D.N.B.

GENEVA, May 10.—General Sir Hubert Gough is reported to have joined the front of those who insist on the establishment of a second front in Western Europe, it is reported from London. In a special article, contributed to the London Evening Standard, Sir Hubert stated that the Soviet troops were on the eve of the most decisive battle and that Britain had to throw into the fight everything the country possessed.

He warned his countrymen not to underrate the enormous strength of the Germany army, and stressed that the erection of a second front in Western Europe must not be undertaken with half-hearted measures. He also referred in this connection to the bitter experiences suffered by the British in the Norwegian campaign, in Greece, Crete, etc. In conclusion, he pointed to the lack of sufficient shipping space, emphasizing that this was the main difficulty in the way of establishing this second front.

LAUDS CHINESE COURTS

Justice Minister Lo Chun-chiang Pleased by Efficiency

C.P.S.

SHANGHAI, May 4.—Minister of Justice Lo Chun-chiang lauded the administrative efficiency of the local Chinese courts of law following an inspection tour conducted here today.

Minister Lo first visited the Third Branch Kiangsu High Court and the Second Special District Court where he was conducted by President Chow, Procurator Kuo, President Chen and Procurator Hsia of the respective courts of law. The Justice Minister is also scheduled to pay a visit to the Second Branch of the Kiangsu High Court and the First Special District Court tomorrow morning.

CHIANG'S AGENTS ARRESTED

Terrorists Now Facing Trial in Nanking Court

C.P.S.

NANKING, May 11.—Following up its recent success in rounding up the members of the Nanking branch of the Chungking-sponsored Three People's Youth Corps, the Ministry of Investigations and Statistics has tracked down and brought to the capital, Liu Lo and four other members of the same corps from Wuhu.

These culprits are now facing trial at the Political Police General Headquarters of the Ministry of Investigations and Statistics.

British Newspaper, Trying to Make Scoop, Leaves Itself Open to World Ridicule

Special

BERLIN, May 5.—In an attempt to scoop the newspaper world with a bit of propaganda which it terms "inside information," the British paper Daily Express leaves itself wide open to world ridicule.

The journal, in a lengthy article, deals with an alleged German-Italian plan to marry King Michael of Rumania to Princess Maria of Italy, the youngest daughter of King Victor Emanuel. The gist of the paper's "Scoop" follows: During a recent trip to Rome, pressure was brought to bear on King Michael to marry the Princess. The King, however, steadfastly refused to consent to this tie, since it was neither in accordance with the inclination of his heart, nor with his political attitude.

The underlying idea of the Daily Express' article, without doubt, is obviously to represent King Michael as a "prisoner" of the Axis. The newspaper seems particularly proud of its bit of "inside information" but it is a pity that there is not a copy of the Gothaic Almanach in its editorial offices.

If one cares to glance through its pages it will be found that the youngest daughter of the Italian King, Princess Maria, became the bride of Prince Louis of Bourbon on January 23, 1939.

SHONANTO NOW HAS SEVEN NEWSPAPERS

Wutosan-Malayu Was First to Be Published After Japanese Victory

Greatly worried by the alarming rumors rampant, when Singapore fell, the 1,000,000 citizens of Shonanto felt most relieved when the first number of a revived Malayan paper, The Wutosan-Malayu was published on February 16, states Ichiro Kitano, of the Army Press Corps, in an article which appeared recently in the Shashin Shuho, a government photographic magazine. His article which deals with the seven newspapers published in Shonanto, follows:

With the destruction of the broadcasting station at the hands of the British troops and with the suspension of electric power supply to all the newspaper offices in Singapore on February 12 when the Imperial Forces were observing Kigensetsu or the Japanese Empire Day, Singapore citizens and a large number of refugees from various parts of the Malay Peninsula were deprived of all possible means of obtaining news through the radio and newspapers.

The Wutosan-Malayu made its appearance on February 16 printing the first proclamation issued by the Japanese military authorities on its front page. All the papers which followed the Wutosan-Malayu came under the control of the Japanese military authorities, which as a result came to have at their disposal a powerful weapon in the form of newspapers, particularly important in modern warfare.

On February 20, the Shonan Times, a newspaper in English, issued its first number and on the following day, a Chinese language paper. The Shonan Jihpao started publication, followed by the Shonan Photo News on February 23 which was distributed not only in the city of Shonan but also in all parts of the Malay Peninsula.

British Malaya has often been called an exhibition hall of races. Accordingly, the languages in use are many. The Chinese born in Malaya cannot read Chinese and are subscribers to English language papers. For the Chinese and Indians who read Malay, the Malay paper The Walta Malaya printed in Roman characters, is published while the Wutosan-Malayu is a newspaper for Malaysians printed in Jawi characters.

For the Indians, who are noted for their diversities of religion and knowledge of languages, three newspapers have came into being. These three papers are all entitled with the words signifying independence of India from the British Empire.

Day by day, the circulation of these papers is increasing, serving in a great measure to help the inhabitants understand the true intent of Japan.

The most salient features of these papers are the Japanese conversation columns, on which are being focused the attention of the readers who are eager to study the Japanese language as a means to facilitate their participation in the Greater East Asia construction program.

China Board Meets

The China Affairs Board held a conference at the Premier's official residence from 9:40 a.m. Tuesday. The meeting was attended by Premier General Hideki Tojo, Foreign Minister Shigenori Togo, Finance Minister Okinori Kaya, Navy Minister Admiral Shigetaro Shimada and Lieutenant-General Teiichi Suzuki, President of the Planning Board, and others.

Hatta on Inspection

Yoshiaki Hatta, Minister of Railways, was scheduled to leave Tokyo Tuesday evening on an inspection trip of the northeastern district. The Railways Minister is expected to return to the capital on May 14, says Domei.

BRIGHT NEW FUTURE FOR UKRAINE SEEN

German Minister Outlines Plans To Delegates Now Visiting Berlin

Special

BERLIN, April 28.—In an address to peasant delegations from the Ukraine, White Russia and Smolensk today, Alfred Rosenberg, Reichsminister for occupied Eastern territories said it was his aim and intention to do everything to turn these agricultural areas into a flourishing countryside where peasants could live in peace and welfare after more than 20 years of Bolshevik oppression.

The three peasant delegations had come to Berlin to express the gratitude of peasants for their deliverance from the Bolshevik yoke and for the introduction of a new agrarian order.

The spokesman of the three delegations assured the Minister that the peasants of their districts would do their very best to bring about the ultimate victory of German arms and to rebuild their districts.

Reichsminister Rosenberg emphasized that the introduction of a new agrarian order meant the elimination of a system of enslavement, which was in existence under the Bolshevik regime. In future, peasants could reap a harvest of their daily toils again. Active participation on the part of peasants in this plan would assure them the welfare and happiness which healthy peasants could achieve by tilling their lands and living in accordance with the agrarian order.

The Minister stated in conclusion that he was glad to hear that a large part of the peasants had already resumed work with confidence and readiness to cooperate in the task of removing the damage done by the Bolsheviks.

The Minister then spoke to individual peasants in their native Russian tongue.

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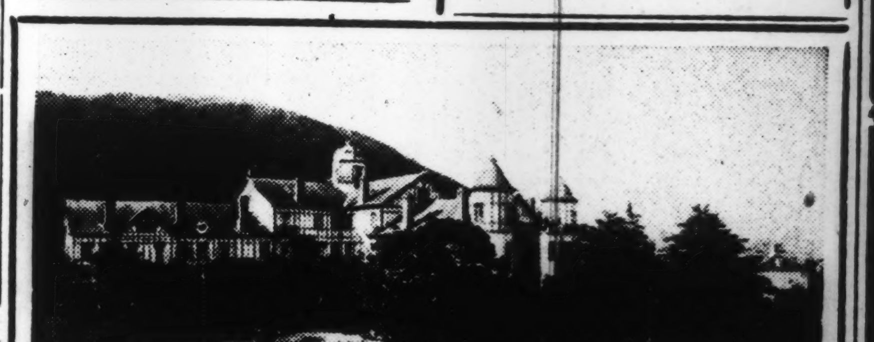

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Chapter One
The Stranger

Omiya, the 18 year old daughter of Udaifu Uragawa of the Shibata Clan of Echigo, was known all over the country for her beauty and her skill in fencing. She was tall and slender, and her skin was dazzling in its whiteness. Her hair was darker than the proverbial raven's wing, and her long, almond shaped eyes had twinkling lights deep within their lustrous depths that could enchant the stoutest heart. Her nose was straight and well-shaped, and her curved red lips glistened bewitchingly like a rose-bud wet with dew.

Udaifu, her father, was pestered by numerous aspirants for her hand in marriage. So numerous were these suitors that Udaifu at last proclaimed that if he could find a man strong enough to defeat his daughter in a fencing match, he would give his daughter to him in marriage. Although Udaifu was drunk at the time he made his proclamation, his decision was not based merely on empty pride, for his daughter was as skilled in fencing as the greatest master who ever wielded a sword.

One day, accompanied by her old nurse and one servant, Omiya was returning to her house from the Hachiman Shrine. The way lay across a grassy heath, and a clear, gentle stream wound through the middle of the plain. The autumn sky was bright, with a few wisps of white cloud drifting slowly across the blue expanse.

On the bank of the stream was seated a young samurai, engrossed in the gentle pastime of angling. Omiya's pace slackened as she passed close to the lone angler, and a deep blush spread slowly over her face.

"My lady, why hesitate?" said the nurse softly, plucking at her sleeve with a smile.

The flush deepened on Omiya's face, and she walked slowly toward the young samurai.

Of late, Omiya's pilgrimage to the Hachiman Shrine had become a daily occurrence. On the return journey she invariably chose this detour over the heath, and passed close to the stream. And just as invariably this lone samurai would be sitting on the bank, apparently absorbed in angling.

As Omiya remained bashfully silent, the nurse stepped forward, and addressed the lone angler.

"Naito-sama, how are the fish biting today?" she asked genially, trying to bridge the gap that seemed to exist between the young couple.

Tsukitaro Naito turned round gently, a faint smile on his face.

"You can judge by this," he said, and tapped his empty fish basket.

"Go on. Say something," urged the nurse, whispering in Omiya's ear.

Omiya opened her mouth, but the words seemed to have stuck in her throat.

"Er. . . . Naito-sama," she managed to stammer out at last. The samurai continued to stare silently at the water, and Omiya glanced at the nurse.

"Naito-sama," she said again, "may I know if you intend to take service in the Shibata Clan?"

"No."

What an abrupt answer, thought the nurse, and wrinkled her brows. Tsukitaro did not seem to be in any way offended by the question. He merely continued to stare silently at his float.

"I did think so," said Omiya; "it was absurd to imagine that a fine samurai like you would wish to bury himself in this countryfied place."

"This is an undeserved compliment," replied the other. "As a matter of fact, this is my mother's birthplace, and I came here for a short visit, which somehow seems to have prolonged itself. I shall have to return to Yedo soon for further training . . . ."

"Are you going so soon . . . .?"

The thought seemed to stab Omiya to the heart.

The white clouds drifting slowly across the blue autumn sky were reflected in the clear waters of the gently flowing stream. The flush had gone from Omiya's face, and she was quite pale.

Chapter Two
Sword-play

Ten days ago Omiya had first met this stranger on the banks of the stream, and, poor maiden, she had at once fallen in love with him.

According to the nurse, who had no hesitation whatever in acting as a go-between, the samurai "did not think ill of her." But what could she do? Meeting and departure is the work of Fate, and as the daughter of a samurai she was bound by rigid, unbreakable rules of conduct.

"But I . . . but I . . . ," stammered Omiya, and looked confusedly on the ground.

Tsukitaro was looking silently at his float, but a sudden thought seemed to have struck him.

"Milady Omiya," he said, his eyes still on the water. His face was hidden from her, but she knew that there was a half-smile on his lips.

"Yes," she replied.

"From what I have heard, you are the best fencer in the Shibata Clan?"

"I am sure you think it is an unnecessary art for a woman," replied Omiya, "and I am half-ashamed of myself."

"Nonsense! What wrong is there for a lady to excel in this martial art? Indeed, my admiration knows no bounds at the reports of your prowess. But may I know if it is true that the man you intend to marry must be able to beat you in fencing?"

Omiya did not know for a moment what to say in reply, and the nurse came to her rescue.

"You have quick ears, young man," she said. "All the wedding arrangements are ready, . . . if there is such a man. But, Naito-sama, that man has not yet appeared who has sufficient faith in his arm . . . ."

"Nurse, nurse," remonstrated Omiya gently, as the nurse seemed bent on launching into an eulogy on her fencing ability.

Tsukitaro remained silent, gazing abstractedly at his float. Presently he spoke again.

"I should like to see an exhibition of your skill, which must far exceed all the rumors that I have heard."

"Indeed," said Omiya modestly, "My art is not good enough that it deserves to be shown before your honored eyes."

Tsukitaro glanced up the stream to where a leaf was gently floating down the current in their direction. He pointed to it.

"Look at that leaf," he said, "when it comes opposite to where you are standing, can you cut it in two, without moving from your present position, and without disturbing the movement of the leaf as it floats downstream? I hope you will not be offended at my foolish and impudent request . . . ."

Omiya turned her eyes to the stream, and noticed two or three leaves floating on the surface of the water as the current bore them gently downstream.

She knew only too well the difficulty of cutting a light object floating on the water from her position on the bank. But she turned to her servant, and said, "Bring me my sword."

It was the custom for her to make her servant carry her sword for her everywhere she went, as it was most unmaidenly for a lady to walk about with a sword slung from her waist. The servant undid a silken parcel, and took out a long slender sword which he handed respectfully to his mistress.

Omiya whipped out the long, keen blade, and balancing it in her hand, whirled it round her a few times. Then she poised herself on the bank, and whirled the blade aloft, her eyes fixed on the water before her.

Her wide, silk-lined sleeves fell back to her shoulder, revealing her slender but sinewy arm which gleamed dazzlingly white in the sun like the arm of some marble statue. Looking at her, Tsukitaro held his breath, for she was indescribably beautiful.

Borne by the current, a leaf came floating gently in front of Omiya. Down flashed the blade. There was a faint sound as the point struck the water, and Tsukitaro's float wobbled on the ripples eddying from the point where the sword had touched the water.

Severed in two, the cut leaf spun on the water. Tsukitaro looked at the maiden carefully for the first time, a smile playing about his lips.

"Splendid," he said. "Your skill exceeds all rumors."

"Indeed," said Omiya, "I am ashamed of my poor skill."

"In cutting a floating leaf," said the samurai, "there is another method, like this one, for instance." He stood up, and his right shoulder moved a little.

That was all the movement he made, but something flashed over the water, something too fast for the naked eye to perceive what it was.

Not a ripple broke the surface of the water, and the float remained motionless. But as Omiya looked at the water she saw another fallen leaf that had been cleanly severed in two floating gently down the stream.

A gasp of astonishment broke from her lips. What wizardry! What wonderful skill!

She looked at the samurai. Tsukitaro had resumed his sitting posture, his fishing rod in his hand, looking silently at his float. A slow flush mounted Omiya's youthful cheeks as she looked at his sturdy form, for there was joy in her heart.

Chapter Three
Treachery

Udaifu, Omiya's father, obeyed a summons from the daimyo, and hastened to his lord's mansion.

His lordship was alone save for Kakunoshin Izumi, his right-hand man. There was faint, sneering smile on his face as Udaifu entered the hall.

Udaifu wrinkled his brows as he saw Kakunoshin. Somehow the presence of that evil-faced retainer was like a premonition of evil.

Kakunoshin had come to power simply by presenting his ward to the daimyo as a mistress. At first he had been the chief attendant, but he rapidly outstripped his rivals in his lordship's favor, and became the Daimyo's minister.

Recently, however, there had been dark rumors afloat centering round this minister, and which boded no good to the Shibata Clan in general. It is doubtful if the minister intended the usurpation of the daimyoship, but it was evident that he was trying to bring about the ostracization of the other faithful retainers.

"Did your lordship summon me?" asked Udaifu.

"Ah, Udaifu." Shinyo Mizoguchi, Lord of the Shibata Clan, smiled a greeting at him.

"Udaifu," continued his lordship, "Is it not true that you have an only daughter? I hear her name is Miya, and that she is the prettiest maiden in all Shibata Clan. However, I hear that she is so skilled in fencing that no man has yet been able to defeat her."

"Indeed," said Udaifu humbly, "Your lordship is well-informed. But she is only a clumsy maiden, and does not deserve your lordship's praise. . . ."

There is no parent who is not glad when he hears his child praised. It was the same with Udaifu. His face relaxed into a smile.

"You must be fairly troubled," pursued his lordship "at the numerous aspirants for her hand."

"The right man is hard to find, your lorship," said Udaifu. "I am desirous of seeing her settle down if a suitable husband can be found for her."

"Perhaps I can find such a man for you," said his lordship.

"Eh?" Udaifu was startled. He realised that he had talked too much. He raised alarmed eyes at his lordship.

"Perhaps my match-making is not in your favor?" said his lordship softly.

"I am overwhelmed," Udaifu bowed his head, "but it is a favor which your humble servant does not deserve. . . ."

"I have found just the right man for you," said his lordship "and I believe it will be a very good match. I think you know him. He is the second son of. . . ."

His lordship glanced at Kakunoshin Izumi who was seated close by with a smirk on his face, and continued,

"Kakunoshin here. His name is Kakuzo, and has recently returned from the Capital. Kakuzo says he has met your daughter, and has been smitten with her beauty. Isn't that so, Kakunoshin?"

"As your lordship knows," said the minister, "he has always been a wilful child. The like of Omiya, he says, is not found even in Yedo. The young rascal is properly smitten, and has given his aged father enough trouble already."

"Come, what do you think?" asked his lordship of Udaifu. "The house of Izumi and the house of Uragawa are two of the oldest houses in the clannate. It is a good match between the two. Don't you think so?"

The smile had gone from Udaifu's face, leaving it pale as paper. Kakuzo, the proposed husband of his daughter, had been notorious for his irresponsible conduct. Even his father could do nothing with him, and had driven him off to Yedo. Rumor had it that Kakunoshin had recalled his son so that he could use him as a tool in his ambitious schemes.

Udaifu realized that Kakunoshin intended the marriage as a sort of weigh-anchor for his son, and at the same time as a means of absorbing the house of Uragawa, which would strengthen his plans.

"How about it, Udaifu?" his lordship's voice broke into his turbulent thoughts.

"Your lordship," he said, "my daughter is too young yet. . . ."

"What?" His lordship's brows darkened. "Do you mean that it is too early for her?"

"Just now you said that you wanted to marry her off," his lordship continued. Or perhaps you mean that my recommendation does not meet with your approval?"

"No, indeed, your lordship. I am overwhelmed."

"Then perhaps you do not approve of Kakuzo?"

Beads of perspiration appeared on Udaifu's pale brow. If Kakunoshin had been alone he would have given a frank answer. But to his lordship he could not be so blunt.

"Your lordship," he said, "my daughter is determined not to marry any man who cannot defeat her in a fencing match. So I cannot say offhand whether she will consent to the proposal."

"I have heard the story before," replied his lordship. "It is very interesting. It is natural for a samurai's daughter that she should want her husband to be better wielder of the sword than she herself. How about it, Kakunoshin? I presume your son is prepared to enter the arena with her?"

"To be sure, your lordship," said the wily minister, "it is the desire of his life."

"Very well, tell him to get ready. I will personally witness the match."

Udaifu's mind was in a turmoil If Omiya lost the match, his house was doomed. According to what he had heard Kakuzo was a formidable fencer. Only the other night three retainers of a house opposed to the Izumi had been killed in a fight with some unknown man. But rumor had it that the unknown man was none other than Kakuzo, the son of Kakunoshin. What chance had Omiya, skilled as she was, against such a formidable antagonist? Udaifu trembled.

Chapter Four
The Dart

On the broad veranda facing the inner garden was Shinyo Mizoguchi, Lord of the Shibata Clan, his wife Oren with her maids-in-waiting, Kakunoshin, and two or three other ministers. Beyond the broad garden could be seen a group of young samurai forming the guard.

Presently, from a shack that had been converted into a dressing-room, appeared two lithe figures, accompanied by an attendant, and rounding a clump of bushes, they came straight to the place where his lordship awaited them. They were Kakuzo and Omiya.

"How beautiful!" All eyes were focused on Omiya.

The huge form of Kakuzo towered head and shoulders above her. Kakuzo was like a rocky crag, dark and formidable. Beside her huge antagonist, Omiya looked frail and weak.

She was wearing a white fencing-frock, spattered with arrow-head patterns. A white sash was round her head, and white cords were criss-crossed across her front and back, holding up her sleeves. She looked startlingly white.

The two lined up in front of his lordship, and bowed. He smiled at them with a satisfied smile on his face. The would-be fencers parted, one going to the right, and the other to the left, with their wooden swords in their hands. The onlookers looked at them with bated breath. When they came to think of it, it was a strange match. The two were fighting it out to decide the question whether they should marry or not.

A faint smile twisted the lips of Kakuzo. "My lady Omiya," he said, "I must warn you beforehand that it is my practice to keep some darts in my mouth, and blow them at my antagonist during a duel. I warn you now that you may not accuse me of foul play after the duel."

Omiya looked coldly at him, and bowed. She withdrew a step, and raised her wooden sword. She had heard of the art of dart-blowing, which was not a very popular method of attack, but she had never experienced it. She did not know when or how the darts would be blown at her. She kept cool, however, and prayed in her heart for victory.

She stared at her huge antagonist, her weight balanced on her toes, her sword ready. There was not a fraction of an opening in her guard.

The signal was given. The onlookers gazed at the duellists with bated breath.

"Eigt!" Omiya's voice rang out the challenge.

"Wohrt!" The bull voice of Kakuzo roared out the answer.

The two figures sprang into action, and their moves were so fast that the onlookers could not follow them. There was a sharp crack, and the two figures sprang apart. Kakuzo had swung down with all his bull strength, but Omiya had parried and slipped the blow.

They were back in their former positions, Omiya's sword pointed straight in front of her, Kakuzo's raised aloft. They were cool and calm, but the watchers felt their hearts thumping within their breasts.

A few wisps of black hair hung low on Omiya's snowy forehead, and she looked more beautiful than ever. The duellists were about equal, thought the watchers.

Omiya slid forward with lightning swiftness, and with a whirl of her red-lined skirts she had sprung high into the air. As she sprang she thrust her sword straight at Kakuzo's face.

Kakuzo, with a swift side movement managed to evade that thrust, and as Omiya fell forward with the impetus of her thrust, he blew his first dart at her face.

With a low, but sharp, exclamation of pain, Omiya covered her eye with her hand, her figure stooped forward. Her guard was open. With a savage yell of triumph Kakuzo swung down his sword.

Chapter Five
The Second Duel

The blow fell on Omiya's undefended shoulder, and she crumpled up into a heap on the ground.

The first man to reach her was Udaifu, her father.

"Miya Miya! What happened?"

"Father!" Her voice was agonized. In her hand was grasped the dart that she had plucked from above her eye.

"Miya! Is your eye all right?" Udaifu was all anxiety.

"There is no need to worry," said the rough voice of Kakuzo who was standing near. "I blew the dart fairly gently. What, do you think I want to blind my future wife?"

What a brute, thought the onlookers, and the maids-in-waiting shuddered.

"Omiya is no novice in fencing," said his lordship, turning to his minister Kakunoshin, "but your son has learnt a strange art."

Turning to Udaifu, he said, "The match is settled then. The houses of Izumi and Uragawa will be joined together. Udaifu, have you any more objections?"

"Your lordship," Udaifu came running to where his lordship was seated "I beg that you will consent to wait for just a short while. There is something I have to tell you. Miya, my daughter, has just confessed to me that she has already determined on the man she wishes to marry Verily, I knew nothing about it until a moment ago.

"What?"

"I beg your lordship will hold your anger until you have heard her story," Udaifu was in earnest. One could read in his attitude that he preferred to kill his daughter himself than to have her wedded to a brute like Kakuzo.

"My daughter tells me that yesterday she had a duel with this man she talks of, and that she had already lost. Without his permission, therefore, she says it is impossible for her to agree to wed Kakuzo."

"What? Why did you not tell me before?"

"That is what I said to Miya, but she says that she was too bashful, and was considering the matter. . . . After all she is so young."

"Who is this man she talks of?"

"He is a wandering samurai called Tsukitaro Naito, and at present is living on the outskirts of this town."

"A wanderer! Then he does not belong to our clan?" His lordship's face was like a thunder-cloud.

The onlookers gazed at the scene with beating hearts.

"What do you propose, Kakunoshin?" His lordship turned to his minister.

"It would not be becoming for Kakuzo to force Omiya to wed him," said Kakunoshin, "and so I propose that this strange man be brought here, and made to fight a duel with my son. The winner to be the husband of Omiya."

"H'm that is well. There is no other way. Udaifu, do you agree?"

"Your lordship is ever right. Thank your lordship for being so merciful," Udaifu bowed his head, the tears rolling down his aged cheeks.

Chapter Six
Enter, Tsukitaro

"And that is the gist of the matter, Naito-sama. You must rescue milady. Come, please," the aged nurse was tugging at Tsukitaro's sleeve.

Tsukitaro had been sitting at his usual spot beside the usual stream, with the usual fishing-rod in his hand, gazing in his usual way at the usual float in the water.

He now turned to look at the nurse who had pleaded so tearfully with him. Suddenly he stood up, and taking out his writing-case that was thrust into his sash, and some paper, he wrote something in a swift hand. Then he folded it carefully, and sealed it.

"Well, let us go," he said.

"Thank you very much. Milady is saved. The Uragawa house is saved. Come, the porters are waiting there."

"Nurse, hand this note to my lord Udaifu, and deliver this message for me. . . . If, by some chance, something should happen to me, this note must be taken at once to the feudal governor. Till then this letter must not be opened, by him, or anybody else. Understand?"

Leaving this enigmatic message, Tsukitaro entered the palanquin. Back at his lordship's manor, his lordship, his ministers, and the others were waiting impatiently for the arrival of the stranger who dared to oppose Kakuzo.

When Tsukitaro appeared the men gasped in astonishment. He had coolly walked in with his fishing-rod still dangling from his hand. The onlookers looked at one another meaningly. They were disappointed.

His plain, frugal dress betokened him as a poor, wandering samurai, a ronin, and moreover, compared to Kazuzo, he looked slim and effeminate.

"So, you are Tsukitaro Naito?" said his lordship with a displeased frown on his face.

"Yes," said Tsukitaro, "I am Tsukitaro Naito, of the Matsudaira Clan of Takazaki."

"What are you doing in this country?"

"This is my mother's birthplace, and I came here for sentimental reasons. The natural beauty of the place and the charming nature of the people have induced me to prolong my stay here. Today again, I am honored by this invitation to compete in a duel in front of your lordship. It is too great an honor for your humble servant, regardless of the consequences of the duel."

Strangely in contrast with his humble dress, his speech and manner were faultless.

"So you are this Tsukitaro Naito," sneered Kakuzo in his overbearing manner.

"Of all the sword-men in the clan, I am the roughest of the lot. So let me warn you beforehand, before it is too late."

The reply of Tsukitaro astonished everyone. Tsukitaro had burst out laughing. "That," said he, between his laughs, "is exactly what I wanted to say to you."

Chapter Seven
Battle

Tsukitaro's style was exactly like that of Omiya. His sword was held out straight in front of him. Kakuzo, as before, held his aloft.

Omiya was not present, for she was resting in a separate house, but there is no doubt that she was praying for Tsukitaro's victory.

Udaifu held his body rigid, anxiety written on every inch of his figure. At first sight, Tsukitaro had appeared to him no better than a beggar, although he was certainly more likeable than Kakuzo. When he heard his speech, Udaifu thought he was a very smart young man, and began to look anew at him. And now as he looked at the young man's stance he thought, here was a discovery. To be sure, his daughter had eyes in her head. She had picked out a man after his own heart. Udaifu was determined to kill Kakuzo in the event of Tsukitaro losing the match, and then kill himself. He hoped his daughter would follow his example.

Tsukitaro stood with a faint smile on his lips.

"Wohrt!" roared out Kakuzo in challenge. The other merely went on smiling, and did not utter a sound. He stood motionless like a statue. Kakuzo was rankled. Tsukitaro did not advance. Kakuzo could not strike, for there was no opening in his opponent's guard.

To blow his darts effectively he had to approach at least three or four feet from his antagonist, and even then it was doubtful if the darts would have any strength behind them.

Kakuzo advanced warily. Tsukitaro shifted a little, and an opening was revealed near his left shoulder. A trap, thought Kakuzo, but almost instinctively he swung down his sword with all his might at that opening. At the same time he blew his darts at Tsukitaro's face. The steel darts gleamed as they left his mouth.

Udaifu drew in his breath sharply. Kakunoshin let out an exclamation of surprise.

Kakuzo had emitted a groan. His sword arm was raised high, and his body was arched in a rigid curve backwards.

There was a heavy thud as his huge body crashed to the ground.

Tsukitaro coolly walked toward his lordship, and bowed. His manner was aggravatingly calm and collected.

Udaifu hastened toward him, and asked, "What happened to the darts?" Tsukitaro silently indicated his head. In his top-knot were four or five darts stuck in his hair.

At that moment 14 or 15 retainers of Izumi rushed forward and surrounded Tsukitaro, their swords gleaming in their hands.

"You have killed Kakuzo Izumi!"

"The participants in a duel have no responsibility for what happens."

"Shut up! If we let you escape, you ronin, it will be a disgrace to the Shibata Clan! Come on, fellows, bind him!"

Kakunoshin, who standing near the verandah, whispered into his lordship's ear. "Your lordship, if this wanderer is allowed to go, it will be an unbearable disgrace to the clan."

"Do as you think best," his lordship stood up, a displeased frown on his face.

Chapter Eight
She Who Is Left

"Your lordship!" Udaifu ran after his lordship.

"Your lordship! Wait a moment! There is a matter of great importance."

His lordship turned round, but perceiving that it was only Udaifu, he turned round again and walked on. He was angry with Udaifu for being the cause, as he reasoned, of all the trouble.

"Your lordship. Wait a moment!" Udaifu clung to his arm.

"Unmannerly villain! Let go!" His lordship turned round and spurned Udaifu. But he did not let go.

"This is vitally important! Your lordship, read this letter!" and he thrust forward the letter that Tsukitaro had written.

Milord Shinyo took the letter. He slit open the seal.

"To the Lord of the Shibata Clan: The tree is unaware that the trunk is hollow; the lien is unaware of the parasite within its own body. But the hole in the trunk is still shallow, the parasite in the body is still small.

Your lordship is advised to be on your guard.

Tsukitaro Naito
Retainer of
Arita Harimanokami, Sheriff."

His lordship's face turned pale as he read the letter.

"Udaifu," he said, and continued, "Bring that man called Naito here at once. Tell the men not to harm him, Understand? He must not be harmed. Those who disobey my order are enemies of the clan."

Udaifu started to go.

"Wait!" said his lordship sharply, "On second thoughts, I leave him in your care. Let no harm come to him. On your life."

Udaifu ran toward the garden.

Six months later.

Tsukitaro was leading his usual pleasant existence at his old house in Hanakawadc, in Yedo. He had gone by order of the Sheriff, Harimanokami, to make inquiries into the conditions of the Shibata Clan. He had exceeded his duties by sending a warning to the lord of the Shibata Clan, and to relieve his conscience he had resigned his office, and was leading a carefree bachelor existence.

One day he heard a familiar voice at the front gate, and going to it he saw Udaifu.

Behind Udaifu was Omiya, peeping shyly over her father's shoulder. Tsukitaro thought she looked more beautiful than ever. Funny, he thought, that she should appear at a time when he was just thinking of her.

When they were all seated in the guest-room Udaifu said, "I do not know how to express my gratitude for all that you have done for us. The lord of the Shibata Clan and all the ministers regard you as their god. Thanks to your warning the clan has been saved."

Udaifu bowed deeply. Tsukitaro looked at him with a smile.

"Come, stop all that. There is no need to be so formal with me."

"If you insist I shall say no more, but we are all very grateful to you. His lordship desires that you will come once more to his country. It is only a small clan, but if you have no objection, we shall be glad to have you with us. Do you think you could join the Shibata Clan?"

"Thank you very much. I appreciate your offer. Please give my best regards to his lordship, and tell him that we might meet again."

Udaifu stood up. "I have brought my daughter," he said, "according to the agreement before the duel, will you please accept her as your wife? It is an honor. . . ."

"What agreement?"

"Why, that the winner of the duel should marry my daughter."

"I am very sorry about it, but . . . As you know I am only a ronin, a wandering samurai. To have the daughter of a great house like yours for a wife. . . . ."

"Nonsense. Miya has gone through poverty, and knows what it is like. Pasting umbrellas, selling fortune-telling cards. . . . Let her do anything."

"But that is inconvenient, milord Uragawa. If I marry your daughter it shall be rumored that I saved your clan because I loved your daughter."

"But, look here. What are you to do with such a daughter as mine? What are you going to do with this Udaifu? What are you going to do about a samurai's promise? Bother! Miya! From today I cease to be your father. I am not your father. You are not my daughter. I disown you. Perhaps some charitable man will rescue you. If there is no such man, why, just kill yourself. Understand?"

So saying he prepared to go. "Good-bye!" He turned his back.

"Here, wait! My lord Udaifu! Wait!" Tsukitaro, in consternation, rose to his feet.

But Udaifu had already run headlong out of the gates.

The End.

BRITISH HOME GUARDS CLASH WITH CIVILIANS

War Office Issues Warning Against Unauthorized Acts Against People

Special

STOCKHOLM, May 4.—The British Home Guard is not entitled to act as an executive organ, it was made known by the London War Office today.

This announcement, the London Daily Telegraph states, became necessary because of several clashes which occurred between members of the Home Guard and civilians in the course of which about 100 persons were killed. During recent maneuvers, the Home Guard cordoned off a whole district and arrested all persons whose identity cards it considered as insufficient. Some of the arrested persons were detained for a considerable time and even manhandled. The Home Guard also searched many private houses although it had no authority to do so.

Radio Program

Subject to Change Without Notice

Regular Program (Weekdays)

NEWS: 6, 7 a.m.; 12, 3, 5, 7, 9 and 10 p.m.
TIME: 7 a.m.; 12, 7 and 10 p.m.
Radio Exercise: 6:20, 7:50 a.m.; 3:20 p.m.
Market Report: 11:30 a.m.; 4:20 p.m.
Music for workers: 2:30 p.m.
Program Announcement: 5:50 p.m.
Juvenile Hour: 10:00 a.m.

Wednesday

—Morning—

6:30 "Steady Establishment of Japan's Economy," by Haruo Naniwada; Recital of Patriotic Poem.
7:00 News; Chamber Music: "Piano Quintette in A Major, Trout" (Schubert).
9:00 Wartime Housekeeping Hour; Music.
10:00 Juvenile Hour: "Morning Song," by Hakozaki Child Chorus.
11:00 National School 3rd Class Hour: Drama.

—Afternoon—

12:30 Osaka Municipality Music Band.
1:00 Narration: "Japanese Pioneers in South Seas," by Announcer Tateno.
1:30 Talk, "New Vocational Life," by Benshin Yamada.
2:00 National School 7th and 8th Class Hour: "The Submarine and The Aircraft," by Assistant Paymaster Itsuro Ito.
4:00 National School Teachers' Hour: "Fall of the British Empire and India," by Kei Ito.

—Evening—

6:00 Children's Hour: Co-Prosperity Sphere Serial: "Children in French Indo-China," by Kunitaro Takahashi.
6:20 4th Day Tournament Sumo at Kokugikan Bowl (Phonofilm).
6:35 Chamber Music: "Military Concerto in D Major," by Toshiya Eto (Violin) and Reiko Eto (Piano).
6:50 Local News.
7:00 Time; News.
8:00 Radio Drama: "A Dream of Edo," by Tomoemon Otani and others.
9:00 News; "Torasaburo Kobayashi, The Pioneer," by Yuzo Yamamoto.
10:00 Time; Today's War Situation; News.

BUILDING OF CANAL ACROSS KRA HINTED

Economic Leaders Suggest Short-Cut Route From Pacific to Indian Oceans

TO COST ¥400,000,000

Promoters Intending to Raise Operating Capital Through Lottery Tickets

An epoch-making plan to construct a 35-mile long canal connecting the Pacific and Indian Oceans at a point near Kra in the Malay peninsula is now being prepared by economic leaders of this country, according to the Nippon Kogyo. When the grand plan is realized, the distance between Asia and Europe will be shortened by more than 5,000 kilometers and this will spur the economic reorganization of East Asia and expedite merchandise transactions with the European economic bloc which is to be formed under the leadership of Germany and Italy after the settlement of the current World War.

According to the prospectus being drafted by promoters of the historic project, continues the industrial paper, a Thai Canal Constructing Association, capitalized at ¥1,000,000 will be established as a juridical person based on Articles 81 and 83 of the Commercial Code of Thailand. Total expenses necessary for the giant undertaking are estimated at ¥400,000,000, of which ¥300,000,000 will be appropriated for engineering costs, ¥30,000,000 for purchase of machinery, ¥25,000,000 for the improvement of laborers' welfare, ¥3,000,000 for publicity expenses, ¥5,000,000 for social expenses of officers, ¥2,000,000 for printing expenses, ¥7,000,000 for traffic and communications expenses, ¥1,000,000 for share dividend, ¥15,000,000 for tin mining expenses and the remainder for reserve funds. First of all, a large harbor will be constructed at the mouth of River Tatapan in Thai territory, the starting point of the projected canal. Then the river will be dredged and later connected with River Jumghorn which flows into the Indian Ocean at a point near Kra. As an auxiliary business, the canal association will be engaged in the development of tin ore because the canal zone is one of the largest tin producing areas of the world.

Of Economic Importance

Pointing out the importance of the canal, the Nikkan Kogyo mentions the following reasons:

1. It will act as a junction of the shipping routes between East Asia and West Asia as with Europe.
2. It will make a great contribution economically as well as culturally to Thailand, French Indo-China, Malaya, Burma and India.
3. It will improve the supply conditions of important materials which are vital for the realization of the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere and the economic development of this part of the world.
4. It will become the most important point in the overland traffic between Japan and West Asia via Chosen, Manchoukuo, North China, South China, French Indo-China, Thailand, Burma and India.
5. Although Japan has been making efforts to increase its tonnage to 15,000,000 tons, the shortening of the sea lane following the realization of the canal will as a matter of practice enable Japan to operate its vessels more efficiently.
6. The construction of the canal will not virtually affect the activities of Shonan as an international port in the post-war days, because the port will still play an important role in the shipping service between Europe and Australia as well as other southern regions.

Will Issue Lottery Tickets

Promoters are reportedly intending to issue lottery tickets in order to raise part of the operating capital of the Thai Canal Constructing Association. Profit to be earned from the tin development, iron and cement manufacturing and other auxiliary businesses will be appropriated to finance some of the canal constructing expenses.

The projected canal association in the opinion of promoters, will earn ¥50,000,000 yearly in tolls ¥3,000,000 in pilotage, ¥15,000,000 from properties, ¥1,000,000 from lottery tickets and ¥500,000 from auxiliary undertakings, totaling ¥69,500,000. Out of these profits, ¥15,000,000 will be appropriated for ordinary expenses, ¥5,000,000 for taxes and ¥3,000,000 for share dividends. The remaining ¥46,500,000 will be kept by the association as net profit. These figures, however, will constitute the balance sheet for the first year of business. In the future, the association will run hotels, warehouses and marine insurance business.

U.S. RESTRICTS GASOLINE

Rationing Will Be Determined Upon Basis of Supplies

The United States Government has decided to enforce gasoline rationing in the 17 eastern states and the District of Columbia beginning May 16, according to a Domei dispatch from Buenos Aires of May 7. Incidentally the Office of Price Administration has fixed a weekly consumption of from two to six gallons for non-emergency vehicles, subject to change prior to the enforcement of rationing. It is said that a final determination of ration will be made according to the entire volume of available supplies, adds Domei.

REVIEW OF POSTAL TARIFF

Revised postal tariff laws were put into effect on April 1 of this year. These laws have been revised from time to time and it would be interesting to survey the various steps through which they have passed from a historical point of view, begins an article in the Economist, a financial weekly published by the Osaka Mainichi. The article in substance follows:

"The term 'yubin ryokin' meaning postal tariff was little used in olden times when mail was carried by express messengers. For convenience, however, the writer wishes to employ this term throughout this article.

"According to history the quickest mail service in the 'Tempo' era (1830-43) was by express messenger who made the trip on foot from Yedo (present Tokyo) to Osaka in four days. This 'quick service' cost the incredibly high sum of ¥90.00 per letter and therefore was patronized only for the most urgent of messages for the most part being sent to persons living in remote towns. Less quick service, taking five and a half days, was available, charging ¥60.00 for a single letter, but regular service taking six days was generally used, the cost being only about ¥0.70 for a single letter.

Early Tariff Rates

"The following table gives the tariffs for a letter carried by express messenger from Yedo to Osaka and vice versa between 1741 and 1868, which period includes the eras of Kampo, Enkyo, Horeki, Banka, Tempo, Ganji and Keio.

Year & Era	Transit	Charges
1st year of Kampo (1741)	3½ days	9 ryo & 2 bu
	4½ days	8 ryo & 2 bu
	5½ days	2 ryo & 2 bu
2nd year of Enkyo (1745)	4½ days	10 ryo
	5 days	5 ryo & 2 bu (plus 5 momme silver)
3rd year of Horeki (1753)	4 days	3 ryo & 2 bu (plus 5 momme silver)
	4½ days	3 ryo (plus 5 momme silver)
	5 days	2 ryo & 2 bu (plus 10 momme silver)
3rd year of Bunka (1804)	4 days	4 ryo & 2 bu
1st year of Tempo (1830)	net 3½ days	7 ryo & 2 bu
	net 4 days	4 ryo & 2 bu
	net 4½ days	4 ryo
	(weight limit: 100 momme)	
Last year of Keio (1867)	3½ days	15 ryo
	4 days	10 ryo
1st year of Meiji (1865)	5 days	5 ryo
	6 days	3 ryo
	(weight limit: 300 momme)	

Note: 1 ryo was 60 pieces of four momme of silver equivalent to about ¥20.00 in present day currency.

"Correspondence entrusted to express messenger in spite of these exorbitant charges generally contained what concerned unusual happenings and what constituted urgent messages that the correspondents wanted to transmit to their lords or their fellow-clansmen in remote towns. On the other hand, common people as a rule made use of less quick and less expensive service, not knowing how soon their letters would reach the addressees.

Method of Delivery

"An old document describing the manner of deliveries of letters contains the following paragraph:

'On his arrival in Yedo, the express messenger spreads a straw-mat in front of his inn, displaying the letters and packages he has fetched to Yedo so as to catch the notice of addressees. If the recipient of a letter wishes to send a reply he entrusts his epistle to the express messenger after ascertaining the date of his departure for the return journey.'

"It was not Hisoka Maejima that introduced the term 'yubinryokin' or postal service, but it is he to whom credit is given for the modernization of our postal service in the eventful era of the Restoration. He fixed a postal tariff on a decidedly lower basis. Below is quoted the tariff he mapped out to take effect on and after March 1, 1871.

From Tokyo:—

Destination	Charges
Kawasaki, Kanagawa, Fujisawa	100 momme
Yokohama, Oiso, Odawara	200 ..
Hakone, Mishima, Hara	300 ..
Nirayama, Okitsu	400 ..
Shizuoka	500 ..
Shimada, Kakegawa	600 ..
Hamamatsu	700 ..
Toyohashi	800 ..
Okazaki	900 ..
Nagoya	1,000 ..
Kuwana, Yokkaichi	1,100 ..
Tsuchiyama, Minaguchi	1,200 ..
Kusatsu, Otsu	1,300 ..
Kyoto, Fushimi, Osaka	1,400 ..

Note: A letter exceeding the weight limit of five momme but not over 10 momme was charged one and a half the fixed rate, and one weighing over 10 momme but not over 15 momme twice as much of the fixed rate.

Postal Service Popular

"According to the diary left by Yuzuru Sugiwara, a senior official of the then Communications Ministry, as many as 150 letters were handled on the very day the modernized postal service was inaugurated. From this state of affairs we infer a growing interest among the populace in postal service.

"According to the reports submitted to the Mimbusho (a ministry akin to the present Home Office), postage stamps sold during the month of March, 1871, amounted to 1,782 ryo and 2 bu, and deducting the disbursement for postal service, a net profit of over 678 ryo was realized.

Second Class Matter Handled

"Following the revision made in the Postal Regulations in November, 1871, postal service was extended to Nagasaki on December 5, 1871. As a result, the postal tariff was so revised as to fix lower charges for diaries, newspapers, books and samples that the postal authorities began to handle in addition to ordinary letters. The tariff was based on distances as follows:

Letters:—

Distance	Charges per unit of 2 momme)
25 ri or less	100 mon
20 ri or less	200 ..
100 ri or less	300 ..
200 ri or less	400 ..
Over 200 ri	500 ..

Diaries & Newspaper (irrespective of weight)

Distance	Charges
50 ri or less	48 mon
100 ri or less	100 ..
200 ri or less	148 ..
Over 200 ri	200 ..

"It is interesting to note that the Government instituted free communications of civilians' petitions addressed to the Authorities concerned provided they were unsealed and weighed 30 momme or less.

"The postal tariff revised and effected in March, 1872, was as follows:

Distance	Charges (per unit of 4 momme)
25 ri or less	1 Sen
50 ri or less	2 ..
160 ri or less	3 ..
200 ri or less	4 ..
Over 200 ri	5 ..

Standardization

"It was on April 1, 1873, that the postal tariff was standardized irrespective of distances, whereby first class mail matter of not over two momme could be delivered at the rate of 1 Sen within city limits and 2 Sen outside the city limits. Post cards were sold for 1 Sen each for delivery within city limits and 2 Sen outside the city limits.

"Free service for deliveries of newspaper manuscripts was started on July 1, 1874, which lasted until 1882. How much our newspaper enterprises were indebted to this free service for their subsequent development can well be imagined.

For Classifications

"In December, 1882, mail matter was classified into four kinds. At the same time, the tariff was so revised as to charge 2 Sen for every unit of 2 momme in weight no matter whether it were sealed or unsealed, or whether it was addressed to persons within city limits or outside city limits. Incidentally a common rate of 1 Sen was fixed for a post card. In 1884 return post cards were introduced and sold for 2 Sen each.

"On April 1, 1899, the tariff was so revised as to charge 3 Sen for a letter weighing 4 momme or less, 1½ sen for a post card, and 3 Sen for a return post card. In October of the following year, letter cards were introduced and sold for 3 Sen each.

"On April 1, 1907, there was instituted a mail service for deliveries of advertising matter weighing 2 momme or less for which postage was charged at the rate of 20 Sen within ward limits and 30 Sen outside ward limits for every 100 pieces.

"It was on November 1, 1909, that the 'special city-limit delivery' was inaugurated on a lower level of charges as shown below:

Sealed Letters—
1½ Sen each; additional 1 Sen for every additional unit of 4 momme.

Books, Printed Matter, Photographs—
6 Rin each weighing 30 momme, additional 5 rin for every additional unit of 30 momme.

Metric System Introduced

"Following the cancellation of the advertising matter mail service at the year-end of 1924, there came into being free service for circulation of election candidates' pamphlets which took effect on January 1, 1925. The law stipulates that candidates are privileged to use this free service when circularizing a single pamphlet to each possible voter in his constituency.

"The metric system for mails was introduced in August, 1931, but it did not substantially affect the prevailing postal tariff. But the postal regulations were incidentally so revised as to institute a new unit of 15 grams instead of four momme for a minimum charge of 3 Sen for ordinary letters, and likewise for other kinds of mail matter.

"On April 1, 1937, a wholesale revision was made in the postal tariff, making the new tariff as follows:

Letter weighing 20 grams or less	4 Sen
Unsealed letter weighing 120 grams or less	3 ..
Ordinary post card	2 ..
Return post card	4 ..
Letter post card	4 ..

"This tariff had been in practice up till the latest revision which took place on April 1 of this year. It is interesting to note that the postal tariff for letters and post cards was less frequently raised as compared with the other mail matter. All this is an indication that the Government was ever-anxious concerning the nation's welfare. In view, however, of the fact that the latest revision of the postal tariff has been motivated for the replenishment of the State treasury in this emergency, we may reasonably acquiesce in any steps necessarily taken by the Government."

PLAN MADE TO STABILIZE NATIONAL CONSTRUCTION

Memorial Submitted by Directors of Tokyo Chamber of Commerce, Industry Monday

With their plans completed after a series of investigations, the directors of the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce and Industry Monday met the various authorities concerned and submitted their memorial in connection with the desired stabilization of our national structure in parallel with the glorious war results scored in the southern regions, according to the Chugai Shogyo of May 12.

This memorial calls for the authorities' cogent and powerful leadership over the entire nation and the speedy establishment of new economic and administrative structures. The memorial embodies the following regulations, gist of which follows:

(1) Establishment of a Powerful Leadership Over the Nation

It is hoped that the Government, the Imperial Diet and the Imperial Rule Assistance Association be united with the object of guiding the nation's spiritual and daily living, thereby encouraging the nationwide support for the successful prosecution of the State policies.

(2) Establishment of New Economic Structure

With a view to bringing the nationwide economic power into full play, it is advisable to the various branches of industries according to territorial control organs with the authorities' administrative functions properly transferred to these organs. It is equally advisable to reorganize local chambers of commerce and industry into influential economic bodies. At the same time, a central economic organ should be created to control local economic organs to adjust production, supplies and consumption of general commodities in connection with the State policy for economic problems regarding the resources from the southern areas.

(3) Establishment of New Administrative Structure

The establishment of a new administrative structure is urgently needed for close cooperation between the Government and people to facilitate the operation of the various economic organs in regard to our industries extending over the southern areas. It is from this viewpoint that the Government authorities are urged to readjust the State organs and the members in government service, in order to make use of civilians' services and also to enhance the efficiency of officials by simplifying clerical routines.

Tsinan, Political Center

Tsinan, with a population of 454,818 forms the political center of Shantung Province. It is located some 100 kilometers from Tientsin and Tsingtao in the central part of the fertile loess districts composed by the Yellow River. The city is adjoined in the west with a vast stretch of rich plains, in the north with the leading political and economical centers, and in the south with the rich soils of the Yangtze River basin.

Exceeded only by Peking and Tientsin, Tsingtao is one of the most important places of commerce and communications in North China. The city forms the junction point of the Kiao-Tsi Railway, running between Tsingtao and Tsinan, and the Tsin-Pu line, running between Tientsin and Pukow, besides which it is also connected with the convenient water traffic of the Yellow River and the Grand Canal.

Self-Sufficient in Cement

When Manchoukuo was founded the demand for cement was increasing rapidly due to the enormous activity of civil engineering works and other industries stimulated by financial support from Japan. As a result, many cement factories have been established, and their aggregate capacity have been expanding to a point of making the new State self-sufficient in cement.

ECONOMIC CONFERENCES TO BE HELD IN SIX CITIES

Round-table Parleys Planned For Japan, Manchoukuo, China

With the object of further facilitating economic transactions within the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere, six economic round-table conferences will be held in the leading cities of Japan, Manchoukuo and China during the second half of this year, according to a decision reached at the East Asia Economic liaison Conference held in Tokyo on Tuesday.

The economic round-table parleys to be held according to the newly-decided schedule are as follows:

Names of Parley	Place	Time
Japan-Manchoukuo Economic Round-table Conference	Hsinking	June
Southern Regions Economic Round-table Conference	Taihoku	July
Sino-Japanese Economic Round-table Conference	Shanghai	Aug.
Sino - Japanese - Mongolian Economic Round-table Conference	Peking	Sept.
East Asia Economic Conference	Tokyo	Nov.

It is understood that technical conferences to discuss measures for accelerating the exchange of staple commodities in the East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere also will be held during this year at Osaka, Moji, Keijo, Dairen, and other cities in East Asia.

Money Order Cut Down

Before Manchoukuo came into existence, the postal money order system in the region was in a highly complicated condition. There was no uniform rate for the country as a whole and the rates for distant places was exhorbitantly high. The Manchoukuo Government introduced uniform rates throughout the country, as a result of which, remittances, can now be made to any locality within the country at half the former rate.

PROPOSE ARMY SCRIP AS LEGAL TENDER

To Adjust Southern Economics Recommendation Submitted By Conference

It is necessary to give the Japanese Army scrip the position of legal tender to improve the purchase of vital materials in the southern regions, adjust commodity prices and stabilize the people's mind, according to the recommendation which has recently been submitted by the Southern Economic Conference to the Army and Navy Offices as well as the Finance Ministry. It was also pointed out that hostile native currencies should be devalued or their circulation prohibited.

The proposal was drafted by the Public Finance and Monetary Committee of the economic organization which was formed under the chairmanship of Shoji Arakawa, a director of the Bank of Japan, soon after the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia. It was presented to the authorities concerned after wholehearted approval was given at a meeting of the board of directors held recently.

Economics Stressed

The recommendation consists of measures to cope with not only the first stage of the war but also the second stage during which more importance will be attached to economic reconstruction rather than to military operations. In the first-stage monetary steps in Thailand and French Indo-China are excluded because money in these countries is in a stable condition, but all countries in the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere are included in the second-stage plans.

Other important points of the proposal are given below:

(A) The first-stage measures:

1. The Japanese Army scrip should not directly be related with native currencies issued prior to the onset of the war.
2. As an anti-inflation measure, the release of Army scrip for non-military purposes should be minimized thereby to prevent the possible over-issue of notes. With the object of absorbing the surplus purchasing power in the southern regions, steps should be taken to issue special debentures, enforce the lottery system and popularize the insurance system.
3. As other anti-inflation steps, it is necessary to expand commodities in the south, especially daily necessities.

Loan Investigation

4. A Loan Inquiry Committee should be set up within the Southern Development Bank as an agency to adjust relations with the existing banking institutes.
5. The remittance of Chinese residents in the south should be allowed only when it has no bad effect on Japan's war efforts.

(B) The second-stage measures:

1. The managed currency system should be applied to all southwestern Pacific countries and the standard value of southern money placed on the Japanese yen.
2. A central bank, as a matter of principle, should be established in all of the Co-Prosperity countries and Japanese Army scrip now circulating should be made issuable together with bank notes. These central banks should be placed under the supervision of not the Southern Development Bank but of the Bank of Japan.
3. It will cause various hitches to decide the exchange rates between the yen and the southern currencies superficially. They should be decided on the basis of the merchandise transactions with these areas and the economic conditions there.
4. The movement of money among the Co-Prosperity countries should be made through the Bank of Japan.

DECIDE ON JOINT CAPITAL

Japan Iron Works and Tube Company Holding Meeting

Their joint capitalization provisionally being decided on, the Japan Iron Works and the Japan Special Tube Co held a joint meeting of their representatives at the Dai Toa Kaikan, Marunouchi, from 10:00 a.m. Saturday. The items discussed and approved in the course of the meeting include the joint capitalization of the two companies, personnel reshuffling, and paying of allowances for retiring directors, according to the Miyako of May 10.

It was agreed that Mr. Genji Nagamochi (of the Japan Iron Works) would assume the chairmanship of the new board of directors and Mr. Toichi Nakajima would continue as the president of the Special Steel Tube Co., adds the paper.

Rails Built With Speed

The problem of constructing railways at the present moment is being given major attention by the Manchoukuo Government in all its programs for economic and industrial development. The projected goal of the Manchoukuo Government authorities is to attain a total length of 25,000 kilometers of railways in the near future. The first 4,000 kilometers planned for completion in the first ten years after Manchoukuo came into existence has been more than fully realized, this mark having been passed in the opening days of 1938.

Closing Quotations Of Key Local Bonds, Stocks, Commodities

Closing prices of key local stocks commodities and bonds yesterday on the Tokyo, Yokohama, and Osaka exchange follow, in yen:

		Comp. with prev. day
Tokyo Exchange, new, short-term	132.4	+ .30
N.Y.K., new, short-term	87.2	— .20
Kanegafuchi Spinning, new, short-term	97.7	— .70
Government bond, Kogo 5s	107.1	Same

U.S. SEEKING RUBBER TO SUPPLY SHORTAGE

Control Placed on Consumption As Eastern Sources Are Cut Off

In a desperate effort to overcome her dire need of rubber now that the supply of rubber from East Asia has been entirely cut off the United States has enforced a far-reaching control of rubber consumption at home and has simultaneously started rubber-tree cultivation along the Amazon River in South America, reports a Domei correspondent from Buenos Aires. The U.S. Price Coordinator Leon Henderson recently explained the rubber situation in America and Britain in the Senate hearings as follows:

"America has hitherto imported rubber from the Japanese-occupied zones in the South Seas to the extent of 98 per cent of her home consumption. Viewed in this light, it is no easy task to ensure a satisfactory source of rubber supplies.

Shortage in Both Countries

"It is jointly estimated by the United States and Britain that they may be able to import 434,000 tons of natural rubber from abroad during the current year, which, combined with the potential production of 25,000 tons of artificial rubber at home, during the same period, the two countries will have a total supply of 459,000 tons as compared with their actual need amounting to 874,000 tons. The shortage therefrom of 515,000 tons must needs be made up for from their respective stocks on hand. The stocks held by the two countries at the beginning of this year were estimated at 693,000 tons, but these stocks are expected to sink to 278,000 tons toward the end of this year.

"Foreseeing the prospective rubber situation for next year, America and Britain may be able to import 135,000 tons of natural rubber from abroad, which, combined with an annual production of 165,000 tons of artificial rubber and 1,000 tons of guayule rubber, makes a total supply of 301,000 tons. But an increase in demand is anticipated in the two countries to meet the requirement of an annual consumption of 1,047,000 tons. With the prospective exhaustion of their stocks of 278,000 tons at the end of this year, an actual shortage of 468,000 tons will be felt next year. It is under these circumstances that the United States is badly in need of boosting the production of artificial rubber up to 300,000 tons in 1943 and to 600,000 tons in 1944."

Oil Discovered in Fuhsin

An announcement was made on May 16, 1940 by the Manchoukuo Government substantiating the discovery of oil at Fuhsin, in Chinchow Province. According to the announcement the oil field stretches 100 kilometers from east to west with Fuhsin as the center. An appropriation of 5,000,000 yuan has been allotted for the development of this oil field in 1940.

Signs of oil at Fuhsin were first noted by the Manchoukuo Colliery Company in May, 1936, while drilling for coal in the vicinity of the Fuhsin Hsien Government Office. By the end of the following month the company succeeded in obtaining crude oil, scanty as it was, and on July 3 a report was made to the Government on the discovery of oil deposits at all of the company's mine lots in the Fuhsin district.

Huge Power Project Expected

The Second Sungari power project, in Manchoukuo, which is expected to be completed by the end of this year, will have a total annual generating capacity of 2,600,000,000 kilowatt hours or more than double the annual output for the whole of Manchoukuo in 1939. It is located at Ta-feng-men, 21 kilometers upstream from the city of Kirin. The Second Sungari waters a basin of 43,000 square kilometers. Its maximum flood discharge is 10,000 cubic meters per second, its mean annual discharge 16,200,000,000 cubic meters and its minimum discharge 40 cubic meters per second. The dam is of the concrete gravity type with a height of 81 meters and a length of 1,100 meters, the volume of concrete necessary being 1,900,000 cubic meters.

Glass Output Ups

The glass industry in Manchoukuo suddenly sprang up on the stoppage of the imports of European goods during World War I. Since the founding of Manchoukuo the demand for glass has increased considerably. Production of glasswares has expanded from ¥554,000 in 1932 to ¥1,500,000 in 1935.

Bill Clearings

May 12
(In ¥1,000)

	Tokyo	Osaka
Bills Cleared	245.044	185.170
Balance	32.931	18.982

BULLISH SENTIMENT SEEN ON STOCK MART

Upward Swing Given to Tobacco Shares on Report of Possible Merger of Firms

A wait-and-see tendency appeared on the Tokyo Stock Exchange Tuesday and transactions in many wares were less brisk than expected when the lower rates of covers were announced early in the morning. The sharp reduction of covers, however, brightened the floor at one time to a noticeable extent.

Tokyo Exchange, new, for example, opened at ¥132.10 in the morning session of the short-term market and before long there appeared a bullish sentiment on the floor but the atmosphere of the bourse issue was not so cheerful in the afternoon as in the morning. A similar tendency was seen in N.Y.K., its new, Kanegafuchi Spinning, its new and Teikoku Rayon, new.

In the long-term section, Manchuria Tobacco opened at a high of ¥87.60 and rose to ¥88.60 which is ¥3.90 higher than the closing prices of the previous day. An advance of ¥1.40 was made in Toa Tobacco. A report concerning the possible amalgamation of these two tobacco manufacturing firms is understood to have been responsible for the upward swing of these wares.

Despite a rumor regarding the lower share dividend which was prevalent for the past several days, Dai-Nippon Sugar stepped up by ¥1.00. Ishikawa Industries moved upward ¥0.70 and Special Steel Tubing ¥0.60.

Following are the afternoon closing prices of important wares in the afternoon session of the short-term market: Tokyo Exchange, new, ¥132.40, N.Y.K. ¥101.10, its new ¥87.20, Kanegafuchi Spinning ¥154.30, its new ¥97.70 and Teikoku Rayon, new, ¥89.90.

Long-Term Market

Long-term market prices in yesterday's afternoon session were:

	Clos.		June	July
First Section				
Fuji Spinning (50)	66.3	....	65.0	....
Do. new (25)	37.4	....	....	37.0
Kanegafuchi Sp (50)	154.7	d .5	....	153.5
Do. new (25)	98.5	....	98.5	98.5
Tei'ku Rayon, n (37½)	....	d .2	98.8	98.5
Tokyo Rayon (50)	41.2	....	40.7	40.9
Toyo Rayon, new (50)	72.7	d .2	72.0	72.1
Second Section				
N. Y. K. (50)	101.2	d1.5	101.8	101.8
Do. new (37½)	86.7	d1.6	87.4	87.7
O. S. K. (50)	93.8	d .7	94.0	92.9
Do. new (37½)	92.8	d .3	....	....
Ishikawajima S.B. (50)	81.5	d .7	....	82.1
Do. new (25)	53.1	d .4	53.2	53.6
Uraga Dock (50)	96.6	d .3	97.1	97.5
Mitsubishi Heavy (50)	107.6	d .1	80.2	80.7
Hitachi Works (50)	74.6	u .2	75.0	75.4
Third Section				
Japan Carbon	....	d .5	....	87.1
Japan Fat (50)	68.3	u .1	66.8	67.2
Japan Automobile Ind.	72.1	d1.9	72.6	73.7
Ikegai Automobile Ind.	....	....	66.9	67.7
Kotobuki Industry	62.1	d .7	62.6	63.5
Japan Piston Ring	78.	u2.1	78.5	78.0
Japan Carbon	....	d .5	....	87.1
Japan Nickel	49.5	d .1	....	50.0

Government Bonds

Government bonds spot prices yesterday afternoon were:

Kogo 5%	107.10	107.10	107.10	107.10
Second 5%	107.05	107.05	107.05	107.05
First 4%	103.00	103.00	103.00	103.00

Short-Term Market

Short-term prices yesterday afternoon were:

	Open.	High	Low	Clos.
Tokyo Stock, new	132.3	132.3	131.9	132.4
N. Y. K., old	100.6	100.8	100.5	101.1
N. Y. K., new	86.8	86.8	86.5	87.2
KanegafuchiSp in.	154.4	154.4	154.2	154.3
Do. new	98.2	98.2	97.4	97.7
Teikoku Rayon, n.	89.9	89.9	89.1	89.9
Osaka Stock, new.	71.9	72.2	71.7	71.9
Japan Steel Tube.	74.6	74.6	74.4	74.5
Japan Oil	77.1	77.1	77.0	77.1
S. M. Railway	71.4	71.4	71.4	71.4
Mitsubishi Heavy	108.1	108.0	108.0	108.0
Hitachi Works	74.6	74.6	74.6	74.7
Japan Mining	58.8	58.8	58.8	....
Manchuria Ind	59.7	....	....	59.7

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NORTH KYUSHU RAILWAYS IN PROCESS OF MERGER

Contract for New Company Signed May 9 for Capital Of ¥50,000,000

The Railway Ministry has been in touch with the railway enterprisers in North Kyushu ever since 1938 with a view to adjusting the local railway lines. As a result, the Kyushu Railway Co. and the Omuta Electric railway Co. have already been amalgamated, and also the Kyushu Electric Railway Co. with the Kokura Electric Railway Co., according to the Chugai Shogyo of May 12.

In view of the pressing need of adjusting the private railway companies to conform with the emergency times, the Railway Ministry last September proposed the amalgamation of the five railway companies operating in North Kyushu, viz., the Kyushu Railway Co., the Kyushu Electric Railway Co., Hakata-wan Railway and Steamship Co., the Chikuzen Sangu Railway Co. and the Fukuhaku Electric Railway Co. Preparations are being made for the realization of this amalgamation, and the formation of a new railway company under the name "Nishi Nippon Tetsudo Kabushiki Kaisha" (Western Japan Railway, Co., Ltd.) with a new capital of ¥50,000,000, reports the Chugai Shogyo.

The representatives of the five railway companies met the chief of the Railway Supervising Office on May 9 and signed the contract for their amalgamation.

The new railway company, upon its formation in about September, will operate an aggregated mileage of 264.9 kilometers of railway lines and 1,236.9 kilometers of bus lines, adds the paper.

Shipbuilding Industry New

The shipbuilding industry in Manchoukuo, still in an infant stage of development, is centered at Dairen. Two 3,000-ton freighters which were completed in 1940 at the Dairen Dockyards to the order of the Dairen Kisen Kaisha were the first to be constructed in Manchoukuo.

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TOKYO, WEDNESDAY, MAY 13, 1942

Preparations for a Confession

When the Battle of the Coral Sea first started, the Americans as usual immediately began broadcasting fantastic claims of a great naval victory. But as actual reports began coming in, and especially after the Japanese Imperial Headquarters released its official announcement concerning the tremendous losses suffered by the Americans and the British, the American authorities suddenly began changing their tune.

Now, their story is that although it is still an American victory, the details are not yet available. They still claim to have inflicted severe damage to the Japanese, but they are unable to name the Japanese ships they claim to have damaged or even to describe their general types. Their claims are thus of the vaguest sort. And most significant of all, they have announced that they will not reveal their own losses until such time as the information will no longer be of use to the enemy.

There is no need of trying to hide their losses from Japan, for the Japanese Fleet which inflicted the damage on the American fleet knows just whom they hit. The only ones who still do not know the extent of the American losses are the American people themselves. If the American authorities find it necessary to keep their losses hidden, it is to keep the facts from the American public, not from the Japanese who already know.

While the American authorities are doing their utmost to preserve their fiction of a "victory" and to hide the extent of their real losses, somber warnings are being issued by various Allied statesmen and publicists to cushion the shock of an eventual unwelcome confession. If the Allied leaders did not know that they would soon have to make an unpalatable admission, why is it so necessary for them to make such elaborate preparations?

For example, Prime Minister John Curtin of Australia declared in grave tones before a tense and hushed House of Representatives that "the battle was of crucial importance to the whole conduct of the war in the Anzac area. I have no information as to how the battle is developing, but I can assure the nation that there will be devotion to duty by the naval and air power of the United States, Britain, and Australia. . . . I ask the people of Australia having regard to the grave consequences implicit in this conflict, to take a sober and realistic viewpoint of their duty to their country." A few hours later, in a broadcast to the entire country, Curtin warned: "I tell you bluntly that the whole world might well shake within the next few weeks under the blows of a full-scale warfare, and Australia cannot escape the blows."

William Hughes, former Prime Minister of Australia, also commented: "The victory of the enemy will have far-reaching consequences and the danger that Australia will be encircled will be very great." He then declared that the Japanese Forces operating in the Indian Ocean have already made it extremely difficult to maintain communications between Australia and New Zealand and England. The possibility that Australia and New Zealand will be completely encircled and forced to defend themselves without outside assistance has become immeasurably greater.

Why are all these somber warnings necessary if, as the Americans claim, they have won such a decisive victory? Why is it necessary to hide their losses if, as they claim, their losses have been so negligible? Why have they now suddenly become silent, when at the beginning of the battle they were so loquacious? Why are they now so reticent, when it has always been their custom to blare forth their boasts on every conceivable occasion?

The reason is that as always, the first American reports of a "victory" have invariably turned out in the end, when all the facts became available, to have been dismal defeats. Always, a few weeks later after public interest has somewhat died down, the American Government has issued a confession of defeat contradicting their earlier claims of victory. It was so early in February when the Americans claimed a victory in the mythical battle of the Macassar Straits, only to be followed by substantiated reports of the Japanese victory in the Battle of the Java Sea and the consequent successful Japanese landings on Borneo. It was so again in early March when the Americans claimed another victory off Bali, only to be followed by a whole series of naval battles off Surabaya and Batavia, resulting in the complete destruction of the Allied fleet in those waters and the consequent Japanese landings on Java.

Again the Americans have claimed a victory in the Battle of the Coral Sea, but already they have suddenly become quiet in preparation for backing water as usual. Even their allies discount their unreliable habits, as witness the cautious warning of Cyril Ray, eminent English journalist. Speaking over the British Broadcasting Corporation program Sunday evening, Ray declared: "We have got to wait until the gaps in the story have been filled in. We have got a lot to remember from the sea battles of the Java Sea and the Macassar Straits." What a confession to make about the truthfulness of one's own ally!

How soon will it be this time before the Americans run through their regular formula and complete their cycle by admitting their losses?

Just Another Mistake

As the consequence of the fall of Corregidor, United States troops throughout Mindanao and the Visayan islands have surrendered unconditionally to the Japanese Forces. Major-General William F. Sharp, Commander-in-Chief of the American and Filipino forces throughout these areas, came forward with the offer of surrender and issued orders to the troops under his command to cease their resistance to the Japanese.

This surrender is, of course, a natural consequence of the fall of Corregidor. When this last great American stronghold in the Philippines fell, further resistance elsewhere was proved to be obviously useless. It means that the military campaigns throughout the Philippines have now come to a successful end. It means that the work of peaceful construction can now be speeded up more than ever before. It demonstrates more emphatically than ever the significance of the fall of Corregidor.

This latest surrender also blasts another bit of American propaganda. After Lieutenant-General Jonathan Wainwright was captured at Corregidor, he, realizing the futility of further resistance, advised all Filipino and American troops throughout the Philippines to cease their resistance. When Wainwright broadcast this advice to all his men to lay down their arms, American propagandists immediately claimed that the broadcast was not authentic, that Wainwright could never have said such a thing, that the Fil-American troops elsewhere would certainly refuse to obey such spurious advice and that they were vigorously continuing their resistance.

But again the events have made liars of the American propagandists. Wainwright did make such a broadcast, and the advice was authentic, and as the result Major- General Sharp did follow it, and despite all predictions to the contrary, Filipino and American troops throughout the islands have laid down their arms.

Like everything else that the Americans have been doing and saying since the beginning of the war, this also must have been just another mistake.

The Beautiful Island of Bali

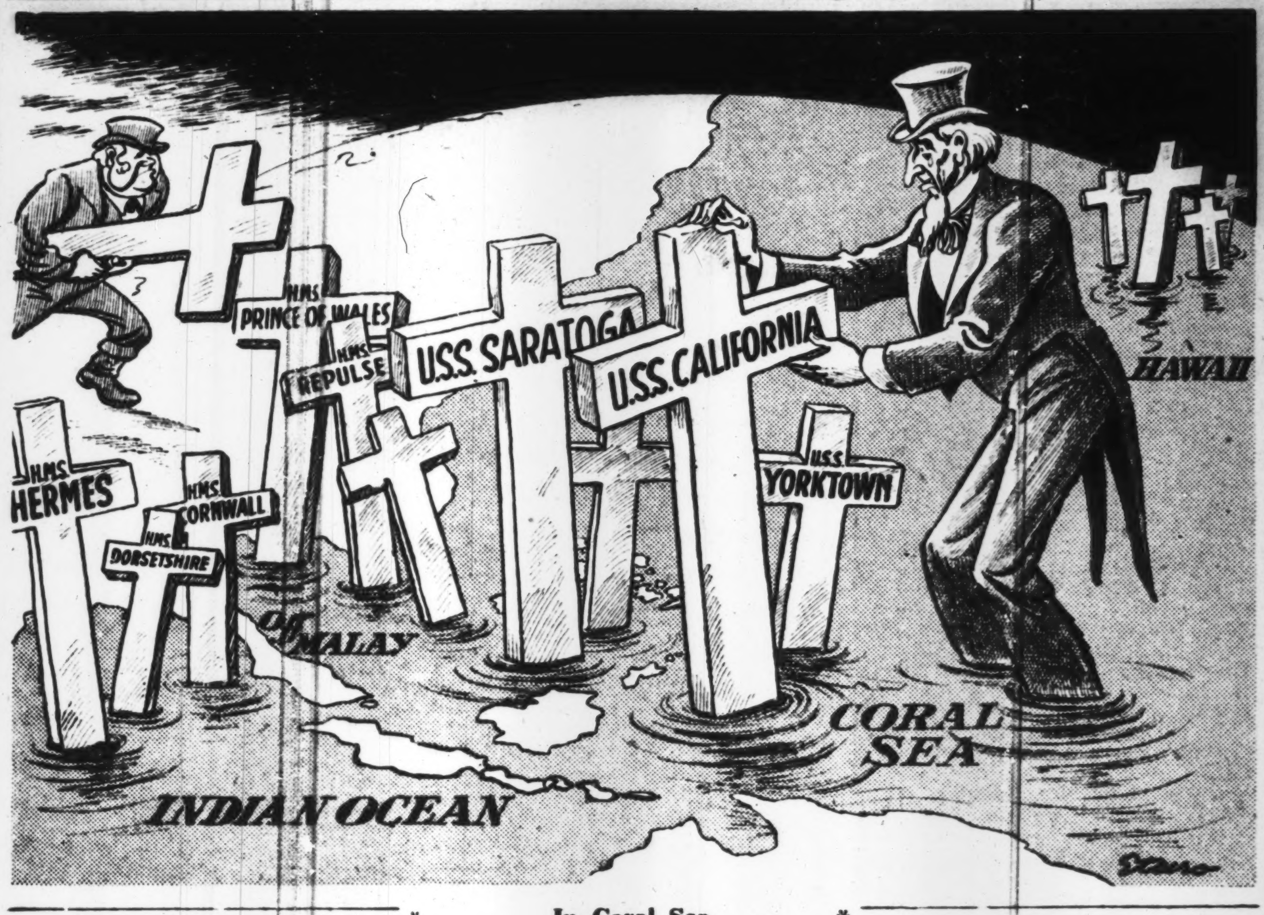
Bali, an island east of Java across the shallow Bali Strait, only a mile wide at its narrowest, came into the limelight of world attention recently during the height of the Java campaign. This little island forms, with Lombok, a residency with two divisions, Singaradja and South Bali.

Mountainous, with deep ravines southward, it has a large alluvial plain in the south. The chief range runs from Lombok Strait to Bali Strait and is divided into the eastern mountains, Mt. Agung, or Bali Peak, a regular volcano reaching 10,499 feet, rising sheer up from the crater lake of that name and the hills of the central division, of recent volcanic formation, with the crater lakes Bratan, Boejan, and Tamblingan.

The Balinese are expert craftsmen in gold, silver and other metals. They are clever in the manufacture of arms, in wood-carving, as stone-masons, and in designing in color, and building good temples and houses of stone. Fine pottery is manufactured and the women weave beautiful garments in cotton and silk, and textures of gold and silver thread, of rich coloring and artistic pattern.

The people are of Hindu-Javanese extraction, with aboriginal strain of Papuan blood, probably mixed with Polynesian. Colonized from India direct, and from Java, by Hindu-Javanese immigrants, in the days when Hindu influence there was at its highest, and again later, when Arab invasion in Java threatened those Javanese who wished to retain their Hindu faith, the aboriginal element in Bali was well-nigh submerged, save among the "Bali Aga" in a few isolated places, who follow a Polynesian cult and keep to themselves in their own villages.

Crosses in the Wake of Allied Blockade



READERS IN COUNCIL

Government Supported

To the Editor:

The historic general election held on April 30 at which the candidates supported by the Imperial Rule Assistance Political Structure Council won over the free candidates by an overwhelming margin conclusively proves that the People are intensely desirous of cooperating and assisting the Government in the latter's prosecution of the multifarious problems besetting the nation.

The results of the general election were the genuine expression of the will of the people. There was no fraud, no coercion, no intimidation. The voters went to the polls and voted according to the dictates of their free will.

The enemy nations which must have tried to capitalize on the results of the general elections in Japan must have been extremely disconcerted when the IRAPSC candidates won over free candidates in nearly every constituency.

Mass 7,896,643 Votes

Out of the total number of 11,872,728 votes cast on April 30, the IRAPSC candidates massed 7,896,642 votes. The unrecommended candidates only obtained one-half of this latter figure, that is, 3,468,832 votes while the Tohokai was only supported by 356,358 franchise holders.

It is interesting to note that the candidates nominated to the Lower House are, on the average, older than those who were elected to the Diet in the last election. The average age of the newly-elected Diet members is 54.03 years whereas in the last Diet, the average age was 54.9. As against 25 men who were in their thirties in the past Diet, only 15 representatives are in their thirties in the new Diet. Specifically, there are among the new Diet members, five men who are between 30-40 years of age, 135 in their forties, 194 in their fifties, 99 in their sixties and 18 who are septuagenarians. The youngest of all Diet members is Toshikazu Fukuiye from the first constituency in Tokyo who happens to be 31 years of age, the oldest being Yukio Ozaki who is 84.

Representative's Professions

Many of these candidates, it is revealed, are lawyers, bank and company officials or farmers. Bank and company presidents in the new Diet total 87 while in the last Diet there were only 73. Lawyers predominated in the last Diet, numbering 86, but among the newly elected candidates, there are only 70. A detailed account of the candidates' profession is as follows:

	New Diet	Past Diet
Government officials	24	8
School teachers	12	7
Lawyers	70	86
Authors, publishers	40	49
Persons connected with newspapers, magazines	21	22
Bank, company officials	87	73
Doctors, pharmacists	7	10
Brewers	10	6
Merchants, industrialists	27	28
Transportation, communication	5	5
Farmers	73	80
Shop-workers	0	1
Others	30	15
No occupation	59	75

The efficiency of the Imperial Diet which was conspicuously shown in the last extraordinary session of the Diet and in the regular session of the Diet which came to an end in the early part of this year is expected to be enhanced even more greatly at the coming special session of the Upper and Lower House which will be convoked on May 25.

The election of so many IRAPSC candidates on April 30 was tantamount to a vote of complete confidence in the Tojo Cabinet. The Government, in view of the solid support of its policies by the people, should prosecute its wartime policies vigorously, confident of the support of the 100,000,000 people in the policies it adopts.

H.H.

May 12, 1942.

Boners

The equator is a menagerie lion running around the mouth.

* * *

The scared chickens of the Romans were the Vestal Virgins.

* * *

An apiary is a shouse where you keep apes in.

In Coral Sea
(A Poem)

By Uncle Sam and John Bull

In Coral Sea, the corals grow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That marks our place; and in the sea
The fishes, still bravely swimming,
Flit past with every scorn for our fate.

We have been sunk. Short days ago
We sailed, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Hated and were hated, and now we lie.
In Coral Sea.

In the Periodicals

Taiheiyo, Vol. 5, No. 5, May 1942 (in Japanese). Publishers, Taiheiyo Kyokai, Tokyo. Price 50 sen. Leading articles: Guiding People of Southern Regions by Yoshitaro Hirano; Australia's Water-Supply Problem and Railway by Yoshiaki Hatta; Isolated Australia Viewed from Marine Transportation by Koichi Hirai; Australia's Politics by Kuniyoshi Negishi; Australia's Farming Geography by Yoshio Okayama; Australia's Culture and Spiritual Life by Toyohiko Kagawa; Geo-political Survey of Northern Part of Australia by Ichiro Iguchi; Cultural Center of Southern Pacific by Kenji Kiyono; Soviet's Attitude Toward Iran by Tomohide Naito; A study on Disposal of China Affair by Masao Kanda; Power of Aircraft Carriers by Kiyoshi Nagamura; Development of Operations in Indian Ocean by Kengo Tominaga; Agricultural Resources of East Indies and Their Utilization by Ryu Yamamoto; Forests of South Borneo by Kuniye Miyaguchi; Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere and Buddhism by Shundo Tachibana and Alaska's Strategic Geography by Matsumi Yasuyanagi.

Ongaku no Tomo, Vol. 2, No. 5, May, 1942 (in Japanese). Publishers, Ongaku no Tomo-sha, Tokyo. Price 60 sen. Feature articles: War of Greater East Asia and Music by Hideo Hiralde; Folksongs of People of Greater East Asia by Hisao Tanabe; Essense and Future of Japanese Ballads by Tokutaro Fujita; Tale of Japanese Classical Music by Michiro Imai; Going to the Front Accompanying the Military Band at the Time of the Sino-Japanese War by Katoji Kasuga; Definite Plans for Renovation of Japanese Musical Circles by Sadao Iwasaki; A Biography of Schubert; History of Musical Development in Europe by Naoye Kadoma; Dances in the Co-Prosperity Sphere of Southern Regions by Shuichi Nakamura, and Encouragement System for Musical Composition in Italy by Taro Akimoto.

Bijutsu Seikatsu, Vol. 2, No. 5, May, 1942 (in Japanese). Publishers, Atorie-sha, Tokyo. Price ¥1: with illustrations. Leading articles: Organizing Exhibitions by Kunitaro Suda; Mind to Paint by Takachiyo Uyemura; Minimized Life by Tadao Tawara; Reviews on the 20th Exhibition of Shunyokai by Kazuhiko Egawa, and Current Topics of Stage Settings by Kinzo Hashimoto.

Toyo Keizai (The Oriental Economist); No. 2,020 dated May 9, 1942 (in Japanese). Publishers, Keizai Shimpo-sha, Tokyo. Price 35 sen. Feature articles: Adjustment Problem of Small and Medium-Sized Business Enterprises, Sea Power and Air Raid by U.S. Planes, Reorganized Bank of Japan, An Ordeal of U.S. Military Expansion, Commencement of German Spring Offensive, Position of Chinese Merchan's in the Economic Phases of Malaya, Present and Future of Thai's Foreign Trade, and the Cardinal Point of the Increased Production of Raw Cotton in Southern Regions.

Kanzume Jiho, Vol. 21, No. 5, May, 1942 (in Japanese). Publishers, the Nippon Kanzume Kyokai, Tokyo. Price 50 sen. The leading articles: the Development of the Packing Industry in Greater East Asia by Tsunejiro Hiratsuka; Canning Manufacturing in the South Seas by Kintaro Kimura; Marine Product Resources and Their Utilization by Hideo Azuma; Demand and Supply and Production of Green Foodstuffs by Saburo Kumazawa; Livestock Industry of Southern Regions by Hyozaburo Yamamoto; Rubber, Sugar and Tin Problems by Shigeki Udono, and South Advance of Taiwan Cans by Shoko Iwasaki.

Synopsis of CONTEMPORARY JAPANESE LITERATURE

NIPPON NO SENRITSU
(Japan Arises)
1932

By MISOGO NAOKI

Old Torimizawa had become a cripple in the Russo-Japanese War, after which his family lived in dire poverty. Of his two children, Yoshiko worked in a cafe where she capitalized her charms, while her elder brother Retsu was called to the colors for service in China at the outbreak of the Shanghai Incident (1932).

Retsu subscribed to Leftist ideas, and so, upon the occasion of his leaving for the front, he had drinks of sake with Natsui, who entertained a similar ideology and was engaged in the class struggle. Retsu imagined that since anti-capitalist ideas were prevalent among the soldiers, the latter might prove to be weaker than those who fought in the Russo-Japanese War.

It was decided that the reporter Enami should also leave for Shanghai, as war correspondent for a Tokyo newspaper. Enami, who was on very familiar terms with Yoshiko, was really in love with the girl. Yoshiko herself was conscious of a slight feeling of affection for him.

Leaves for Front

Enami came to bid her farewell at the bar, and after he left a reporter on the same paper called Kunisu argued before her on the importance of the Shanghai Incident from the standpoint of war. Let's say (he said) as a hypothetical proposition that Japan would emerge victorious at Shanghai. In such an event the Chinese would undoubtedly make an appeal to the League of Nations for the recovery of their rights, for there is justification for this from their point of view. The League members would in all probability enter a protest. This, however, would be our chance. We should then quit the League, advocate the principle of independence and self-determination for the Orient, and clarify our position with a new policy—the Monroe Doctrine of the Orient. In short, this is the opportunity that lies in the present incident at Shanghai. Then we should contend that both Manchuria and Mongolia are necessary to Japan for her existence.

Japan's Duty

Britain, France and the United States possess large territories and hence cannot understand the sufferings arising from lack of territory. The authority of the Nanking Government extends over only a part of the whole country, nor is the Canton dialect used in Nanking, any more than is the Japanese language. For the Japanese to develop the lands of China, in the interest of both the Chinese and the Japanese, is indeed a blessing to humanity. . . .

The war was on. The bombardment of the Woosung fortresses! Retsu was amazed to find himself taking pride in the Japanese warships on the Whangpoo River, in the armaments that had been built with most of the taxes contributed by himself and others of his country. The truth was that, aside from his Leftist and cosmopolitan ideas, the Japanese tradition was firmly rooted in his being. Though he was of the belief that he could not derive as much inspiration from them as did his comrades-at-arms, he was none the less impressed with the power, the beauty of those warships.

Real Japanese Spirit

The kneeling figure of the captain, his sword unsheathed to signal commands, was the embodiment of a pure, selfless virtue which was destined to be sacrificed in carrying out its responsibilities, its mission, its duty. Retsu felt that in the usual formalism of the army—in short, in the very thing he had cursed most—there resided the noblest spirit of the human being. When the command "Attack!" was given, he was absolutely unmindful about dodging enemy bullets, determined as he was never to suffer defeat, and rushed forward like deer in a chase.

The same thought existed in the mind of Enami, the war correspondent, who followed the movement of the troops. War, he wrote to his friend Kunisu, was the apotheosis of sports: the expression of the highest mark of intelligence and physical efficiency and of the purest, the most exalted morality.

At the battle front Enami met Retsu Torimizawa. Retsu related to him about how, through his war experiences, he had walked a different path from the Leftist movement of men like Natsui. How can the Japanese people possessing this singular nature do anything worthy of themselves by taking orders from Communist Russia? Indeed, they should renounce those theories of the Left, theories which are at best mechanical and doctrinaire, and grapple with realities. . . . Thus did Retsu unbosom himself to Enami.

Story Analyzed

The quality which above all lends significance to the work is the moral contention that runs through it. The author himself has said that "the questions dealt with in this story are, first, a part of my own view of war; secondly, the singular nature of the Japanese people with respect to fighting; and, thirdly, a new interpretation in connection with the martial spirit."

BATTLE OF CORAL SEA MAKES U.S. NAVY THIRD-RATE POWER

Dreadnoughts of Allied Nations No Match for Peerless Japanese Fleet in Any Encounter

In a naval engagement with a combined fleet of the American, British and Australian navies in the Coral Sea, the Japanese Fleet has virtually destroyed the enemy fleet. It is the traditional tactics of the Japanese Navy to meet the enemy, fight, and destroy it. The battle was commenced on May 6, and by May 8, the combined fleet of the United States, Britain and Australia suffered a shattering blow, losing one battleship of the California class, a monster dreadnought of 32,000 tons, with a complement of 1,500; and two aircraft carriers, of the huge Saratoga type of 33,000 tons, the smaller but newer Yorktown class of 20,000 tons, all of the American navy. They carried crews of over 2,000 and about 100 aircraft apiece.

Heavy Losses

The British fleet received an equally serious blow as the Japanese successfully crippled a battleship of the Warspite type of 30,600 tons, with a crew of 1,200 and an Australian cruiser of the Canberra type of 10,000 tons. In view of the fact that a naval repairing base does not exist at a convenient distance, it is probable that the demolished British and American ships will find their way to the bottom of the extraordinary rough Coral Sea.

Previously the United States and the British navies had learned that they were no match for the Japanese Navy unless they pulled their strength together; they learned this bitter lesson in the Battle of Pearl Harbor, the Battle of Java, the Battle of Bengal, the Battle of Malaya and many other battles. In hope to improve the situation for themselves they combined their forces this time, but to their dismay, again they found that even their combined fleet was not equal to the invincible Japanese Navy. As a result of this battle, the United States will be relegated to a third-rate naval Power, inasmuch as she has only a half dozen serviceable capital ships which are hardly sufficient to guard her far-flung coast-line.

Must Admit Now

While the enemy nations may claim that the Japanese Navy did not win the victory in Pearl Harbor through sheer supremacy in arms and tactics and that it was won only through the intervention of Lady Luck and that in the battle off Malaya, the Prince of Wales and Repulse were at a disadvantage in view of the fact that they were not escorted by aircraft and that the Japanese planes had attacked the ships from bases on shore, the enemy propagandists and commentators will have to admit that in the sea battle of the Coral Sea, the Japanese have conclusively proved that the Rising Sun men-of-war are the invincible and the most magnificent ships that ever sailed the seven seas.

The formation of the enemy fleet of battleships and aircraft carriers in the Battle of the Coral Sea seems to indicate that the United States and the Allied nations had realized that in order to smash the Japanese supremacy in the waters of the western Pacific, it was necessary to attack the Japanese Navy en masse in dreadnought formation. It was a desperate action on the part of Japan's enemies to retrieve and to make up for the losses of their bases in the Pacific. The enemy aircraft carriers were added to the flotilla to prevent the disaster that befell the Prince of Wales and Repulse in the waters off Malaya and the battleships added, on America's reappraisal of her past naval tactics.

Mission of Carriers

Originally, American naval tacticians had planned to send the aircraft carriers as vanguards of the dreadnoughts and through the activities of the planes on these floating hangars prevent and crush the spearhead of Japan's naval advance but due to the Hawaiian debacle in which the United States lost the main body of her fleet, she was forced through necessity to send her remaining battleships and aircraft carriers separately on different missions. The second object of this new strategy was to permit the ships to take part in guerrilla warfare. The sinking of the Lexington, however, has definitely shown the tremendous disadvantage of letting a capital ship roam the seas alone, for, in this case, one little submarine of the Japanese Navy had attacked and sent her down to the bottom of the sea.

These naval defeats suffered since the beginning of the War of Greater East Asia practically deliminates all possibility of a major future naval engagement in the Pacific between Japan and the United States. The main fleet of the American Navy is rusting at the bottom of the Pacific and it is doubtful whether the United States can send another fleet over to the Pacific.

Allies Frightened

Propaganda organs of the Allied camp have been extremely active in a frantic attempt to draw a rosy picture of the Allies. But that Allied leaders seem to be convinced of the defeat of their allies is attested by a frightened statement made by W. M. Hughes, deputy leader of the Opposition in the Australian Parliament. He said, according to the Radio Australia: "The people of Australia are sternly resolved to meet the consequence of defeat." As in all previous battles, the propaganda organs of the Allied nations claimed smashing victories over the Japanese in the latest naval engagement, but as time elapsed the initial claim of their leaders sounded hollow. Mr. Curtin, Australian Prime Minister, in his latest address to his frightened people revealed that he had no faith in a victory of the Allies. In a faltering voice Mr. Curtin said: "Nobody can tell what the result of these naval operations could be. If we come out advantageously, we should have time for gratitude. . . . but if we should not have the advantages from this war theater, all that confronts us is a sterner ordeal."

Losers Both Ways

The Allied nations have found, at an enormous cost, that they could neither defeat Japan by means of an economical blockade or by militarily opposing her with the combined forces of all the Allied nations; and that they are beaten everytime they attempt to defeat the Japanese Navy even in their own waters.

These Allied reverses, however, are having far-reaching and favorable influence on millions of people who have been seeking a chance to free themselves from the centuries-long bondage of their Anglo-Saxon masters and once again, to see the glorious dawn of freedom, independence, and self-expression. Like other countries in East Asia, Australia and India should realize that they at last have a chance to emerge from age-long British slavery, reject American interference, and to develop their peculiar nationhood.

Hen Pecked Husbands

Ten hen-pecked husbands formed themselves into a sworn society for resisting the poisonous oppression of their wives. At the first meeting, they were sitting talking over their pipes and wine, when suddenly the ten wives, who got wind of the movement, appeared on the scene. There was a general stampede, and nine of the husbands incontinently bolted like rats through a side door, only one remaining unmoved to face the music. The ladies merely smiled contemptuously at the success of their raid, and went away. The nine husbands then agreed that the bold tenth man, who had not run away, should be appointed their president; but on coming to offer him the post, they found that he had died of fright.

Scenic Spots

Unzen and the Shimabara peninsula are among the beauty spots in Japan best known to foreigners, especially to people in China, as they are easily accessible from Nagasaki. Unzen is noted for its sulphur springs, its varied and beautiful scenery, and its bracing air. One of the finest of mountain walks is up the extinct volcano on whose flank Unzen lies. The summit consists of three chief peaks, Kunimidake, Fugendake and Myokendake. A magnificent view is obtainable from Fugendake, stretching from Higo and Satsuma on the one hand to the distant group of the Goto Islands on the other, and including, in addition to the volcanoes of Mt. Aso and Mt. Kirishima, innumerable bays and islands which together form a panorama of indescribable beauty. The road between Kojiro and Shimabara, runs close to the shore of the gulf, and affords lovely views of the Shimabara mountains. The view across the Shimabara Gulf is at all times most beautiful.

But the places to which brief reference has been made above are but a few of the choice spots in Japan. There are very few parts of Japan, indeed, which are not endowed with great natural beauty. Even the less hilly areas are bright and pleasant and the well-ordered farms and trim villages and hamlets present a most attractive face to the world. Wherever agriculture is possible it is attempted, and fine crops are grown in places where the difficulties of nature might at first sight have been thought to be insuperable obstacles. Quiet farmlands nestle under rocky hillsides and terraces have been cut in difficult spots so as to admit of the raising of grain and vegetables. The orchards and fruit farms of Japan are in themselves a pleasure to behold and the orange-growing districts are among the pleasantest rural scenes.